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# ***Daily Report***

## **Near East & South Asia**

FBIS-NES-95-152  
Tuesday  
8 August 1995

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# Daily Report

## Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-95-152

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8 August 1995

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## Inter-Arab Affairs

**League Condemns Israeli Court Decision on al-Aqsa**  
*NC0608183095 Cairo MENA in Arabic*  
1542 GMT 6 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 6 Aug (MENA)—The Arab League General Secretariat has strongly condemned the Israeli High Court's decision allowing Jews to enter the al-Aqsa Mosque.

In a statement today, the Arab League Secretariat stated that the court decision sets a serious precedent and is a flagrant violation of Security Council Resolution 252 on Jerusalem. It is also a blatant breach of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 on the inadmissibility of changes in the occupied areas or harming citizens under occupation.

The statement pointed out that the Israeli court decision obstructs the ongoing peaceful negotiations based on the implementation of Security Council resolutions pertinent to the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Middle East issue; also, it clearly violates the Declaration of Principles signed in September 1993 between the PLO and Israel. This declaration stipulated that Jerusalem is among the issues to be negotiated as part of the talks' final phase and that the West Bank and Gaza are a single territorial unit whose integrity must be preserved during the interim period.

The general secretariat called on the world and the active states, particularly the cosponsors of the peace process, to adopt clear and decisive stands and to seek a halt to these measures, which endanger the peace process and increase regional tension and extremism. The statement added that this decision entangles religion with politics, something that will increase extremism and tension in the region at a time when all regional and international efforts are being exerted so that a just and lasting peace may prevail in the Middle East.

**League Committee Prepares Draft Code of Honor**  
*NC0608151595 Cairo MENA in Arabic*  
1200 GMT 6 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 6 Aug (MENA)—The permanent committee drafting a code of honor for Arab security and cooperation held its sixth session today under Arab League Secretary General Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid. The meeting was attended by representatives of 15 Arab countries.

In an effort to improve the Arab League, the committee reviewed principles, general provisions, and methods and mechanisms of common Arab action to bolster inter-Arab ties. The committee is scheduled to present the draft code at the Arab foreign ministers' meeting in

September. Egypt, Iraq, Kuwait, Qatar, Palestine, Oman, Bahrain, Libya, Algeria, Lebanon, Morocco, Comoros Island, Yemen, Jordan, and the United Arab Emirates are working on the draft code.

President Husni Mubarak called for the draft code at the 50th anniversary of the Arab League in March. The text of the draft code of honor for Arab security and cooperation is as follows:

With a desire to strengthen common Arab action, which will rejuvenate inter-Arab relations by improving the Arab League's effectiveness, enabling it to achieve the grand objectives of the code of honor, we agree on the following:

### I. Principles and General Provisions

1. Affiliating with the Arab nation and preserving the genuine essence of Arab identity are the foundations that link people and safeguard interests.
2. Establishing overall pan-Arab security to preserve the Arab nation and ensure its progress, interests, future, freedom, and territorial integrity. This is an indivisible issue and will be achieved if each Arab state is secure.
3. Arab solidarity is necessary to achieve the goals and principles of the Arab League for common Arab action, as well as the supreme pan-Arab goals in political, economic, social, and cultural spheres.
4. Building on the points outlined in the statements issued by the Alexandria tripartite summit in December 1994 and the foreign ministers of the Damascus Declaration member states in Bahrain in July 1995; consolidating the roles of the Arab League and its organizations; and strengthening political and economic relations among the Arab states under the framework of the Arab League.
5. Respecting the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, and the regimes of each Arab state and emphasizing its control of its natural and economic resources; not intervening in states' domestic affairs; and pledging to not directly or indirectly upset or violate this principle.
6. Committing to Arab legality and the resolutions of the Arab summits, the Arab League Council, and the institutions that serve common Arab action and the need to put them into effect.
7. Prohibiting the use of force, threats, and the instigation of force by an Arab or non-Arab country against an Arab country; considering aggression or armed threat against an Arab country as one against all member states. Committing to help rescue an Arab state that is subject to aggression; repulsing aggression by using,

jointly or individually, all necessary measures and available resources, including armed force. Acting in accordance with the provisions of the Arab League Charter, the common defense and economic cooperation pact.

8. Committing to resolve differences and disputes between Arab countries peacefully and within the framework of the Arab League as the guardian of the Arabs. This will be done by using to the Arab court of justice or by negotiating, mediating, reconciling, or by using arbitration or the committees of fraternal endeavors that work to resolve differences and disputes.

9. Committing to oppose terrorism, to not helping terrorist elements and actions in any form whatsoever, directly or indirectly, and renouncing fanaticism and extremism.

10. Building joint Arab economic and social action on stable and clear bases to allow it to grow and prosper to serve regional and pan-Arab interests.

11. Encouraging the development of regional groups of member states and strengthening their relations with the Arab League.

## II. Joint Arab Action Methods

1. Achieving comprehensive, candid Arab reconciliation to build new, pragmatic, and lasting Arab relations.

2. Ensuring pan-Arab security in all spheres and establishing comprehensive and just peace that is based on implementing the resolutions of international legitimacy and the land-for-peace principle.

3. Freeing the Middle East from weapons of mass destruction.

4. Achieving a comprehensive Arab cultural renaissance and educating Arabs of all ages to respect human rights and basic freedoms.

5. Developing the Arab League's organizations and the joint Arab action organizations and establishments and raising their efficiency according to Arab and international developments.

## III. Joint Arab Action Mechanisms

1. Establishing an Arab court of justice to resolve Arab disputes.

2. Creating other mechanisms based on committees that include using the Arab League's secretary general to deal with differences and disputes that may arise between member countries and to solve them in accordance with the mandate and authority defined by the Arab League Council or the concerned parties.

3. Forming an Arab parliamentary council from the representatives of the legislative councils of Arab countries within the Arab League framework.

4. Establishing an Arab peacekeeping force when necessary whose formation, tasks, actions, funding, and command will be defined in accordance with the Arab League Charter and the joint defense pact.

5. Approving the proposed amendments to the Arab League Charter that have been agreed on by making the necessary changes to it.

6. Setting up a free Arab trade zone towards having a common Arab market.

7. Organizing cooperation between the Arab League and non-governmental Arab organizations and bodies to strengthen joint Arab action.

7. [as received] The secretariat general will prepare studies, draft plans, programs, and systems that aim to apply the code of honor and will present them to the Arab League Council in preparation for approval. The secretary general will submit an annual report on the implementation of the code to the Council during its March sessions.

## Islamic Affairs

### Mubarak Gives Speech at Islamic Conference

NC0708142095 Cairo MENA in Arabic  
1100 GMT 7 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Alexandria, 7 Aug (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak stressed the need for followers of religions that uphold justice and who came to preach peace on earth to declare their rejection of violence, aggression, and terrorism.

This came in President Mubarak's address to the seventh general conference of the Higher Council for Islamic Affairs, which began in Alexandria this morning under the slogan "Religion in the Service of Mankind." The speech was delivered on his behalf by Awqaf Minister Dr. Muhammad 'Ali Mahjub.

President Mubarak also appealed to followers of the divine religions to adopt a fair, unbiased, and united stance on all the world's issues so that peace can be achieved, violence can be ended, and all humanity can feel it is entering a new era of safety.

President Mubarak said: Our world is [words indistinct] in a world teeming with conflict and threatened by violence and terrorism from every side. In such a climate, the divine religions alone can be the buoy in all these dangers. He called on the whole world, especially

the followers of the divine religions, to review fairly and objectively the persecution and ethnic injustice being inflicted on Muslims, particularly in Bosnia-Herzegovina, which is being subjected to attempts at annihilation, ethnic cleansing, and the ugliest and most violent barbaric practices. He added: Throughout their long history the Muslims have been architects of civilization and the propagators of peace, tolerance, and fraternity. Their civilization was a moral and humanitarian one that built and did not destroy, that constructed and did not demolish, and that brought peace to all people.

The following is the text of President Mubarak's address to the conference:

Grand Imam, respected Shaykh of Al-Azhar.

Respected Gentlemen, dear guests of Egypt.

Welcome to the blessed and good land of Egypt, the land of the thriving al-Azhar, which has upheld religious moderation for over 1,000 years.

Welcome to Egypt, the crossroads of the divine messages, the place where all its sons, Muslims and non-Muslims, have lived the most splendid example of religious tolerance and human fraternity throughout the ages and centuries, between the mosques' minarets and church bells.

Welcome to this historic meeting of the seventh conference of the Higher Council for Islamic Affairs, which includes the senior men of religion and elite intellectuals and scholars from worldwide, both Muslims and non-Muslims. Here they will discuss an extremely important issue, that of religion in the service of mankind.

The extreme importance of this issue you will tackle during your respected conference emanates from our world's need today to review the balance between its material and spiritual values. The equilibrium has become seriously imbalanced by the ascendancy of materialism in contemporary society and the diseases of greed, selfishness, violence, and injustice inflicted on society. This is a sign of danger that requires us to pause and look for a safe way out that will protect the world from fears for the future.

Undoubtedly, none of the divine messages advocated aggression, fanaticism, or bloodshed. All the divine messages, with great Islam the last of them, advocated good deeds, love between man and his brother, and secure and peaceful coexistence among all mankind, white and black.

Dear Brothers.

We are living in a new era, by whatever criteria you measure it. Understanding the facts about this era and

its nature is indispensable for taking any action capable of facing the problems of today and opening the doors to the future.

Our generation has witnessed great scientific and technological revolutions that have shortened the distances between countries and continents. Peoples have become closer to each other and most of the barriers between cultures and civilizations have disappeared or are on the verge of disappearing. Thus anyone who is managing his life and that of his nation as if he is isolated from the world and capable of living alone without interaction and links with others is committing a very serious mistake against himself and his nation.

Muslims and their brothers from the other religions share an extensive common background and therefore they can all work together and extend the bridges of joint cooperation so as to continue human development and serve their religion and homeland. [passage omitted]

Egypt's history is affiliated with heaven; it has been a cradle that fostered all God's religions. Egypt extends its hand to all advocates of God's religion, peace, coexistence, and social equality among races and regimes on earth. Egypt puts out its arms with love and peace to the world and at the same time calls for peace founded on justice and nonalignment and preserving the rights of others. Egypt extends its hands with love and peace and calls on the whole world, particularly the followers of the heavenly religions, to reconsider with fairness and objectivity the persecution and oppression befalling the Muslims. Muslim mosques and shrines are being destroyed, and they are being forced out of their lands for no fault or crime of their own.

There is no need to give details, for the whole world can see and testify to this. The unprecedented massacres, ethnic cleansing, and the ugliest kinds of violence and brutality taking place in Bosnia-Herzegovina provide the best proof. This is taking place while the international community is still considering whether to permit the victims to obtain arms.

The international community has failed to defend the Bosnian people and has not allowed them to obtain arms to defend themselves and their right to life, which is the most basic human right.

These crimes and others require the followers of the heavenly religions that preach peace on earth to renounce violence, aggression, and terrorism and to take a fair and common stance on all world issues without prejudice so that peace can be established and violence ended. Thus, mankind may feel that they are heading for a new era of security.



The calls of the heavenly religions for a fair peace in the world are not limited to ending military aggression. Religions call for social justice and social solidarity between rich and poor. Your esteemed conference must declare in the name of all heavenly religions an international call for justice and peace—political and social justice, good relations with others, and political and social peace, family peace and peace with oneself and with others. Your conference must find a remedy for all maladies and must use religious teachings and grace to build bridges of joint cooperation between Muslims and their brother followers of other religions. Conferences and meetings serve to increase rapprochement and cooperation. In addition, mistakes are corrected and man's march is set on the right path.

Dear brothers: Needless to say, throughout their long history Muslims have been mentors of a humanitarian civilization and advocates of peace, tolerance, and brotherhood. They never mistreated, oppressed, or persecuted their non-Muslim brothers. There has been a humanitarian and moral civilization, which built but did not destroy and preached peace for all peoples.

In Egypt, all its sons—Muslims and non-Muslims—have throughout their history embodied a splendid patriotic epic where tolerance and fraternity are manifest. Today Egypt expresses its extreme happiness at hosting this important conference. It declares its complete readiness to respond positively to all the recommendations and resolutions your conference will pass. Egypt hopes that your recommendations and resolutions will benefit us and the world around us. We wish you a happy stay and pray to God to grant you success. May God's peace and mercy be upon you.

**Political Islam Review: AL-SHA'B 1 Aug**  
NC0508112495

[FBIS Editorial Report] The following is a comprehensive review of all items in the 1 August edition of the Arabic-language newspaper AL-SHA'B that pertain to political Islamic issues.

#### CONTENTS:

1. MB in Jordan, Egypt Denounce Arrest of Abu-Marzuq
2. Report Denies Arrested Camp Members Are Muslim Brothers
3. MB Statement Refutes Claims Camp Youths Act Against State
4. Editor Slams Inaction Over Bosnia, Campaign Against MB
5. Writer Berates Government for Banning Donations to Bosnjans

6. Writer Views Government Campaign Against MB
7. Writer Against Separating Religion and State
8. Writer Denounces Jordanian-Israeli Aid to Bosnia

#### MB IN JORDAN, EGYPT DENOUNCE ARREST OF ABU-MARZUQ

A 200-word report by Yusuf Sa'd on page 1 notes that the Muslim Brotherhood in Jordan and Egypt denounced the arrest in the United States of Hamas activist Dr. Musa Abu-Marzuq.

#### REPORT DENIES ARRESTED CAMP MEMBERS ARE MUSLIM BROTHERS

A 450-word report on page 1 by Qutb al-'Arabi and Dawud Hasan says that in a new escalation the Egyptian Government has instituted a new campaign against the Muslim Brotherhood [MB]. The State Security forces raided an international Boy Scout camp near Alexandria on 28 July and detained approximately 210 youths on charges of belonging to the MB. The report says that the Boy Scouts denied the charges and stressed that they are members of youth centers. The youths said that they joined the camp in accordance with an official and public invitation and that the program of the camp was drawn up in agreement with the Higher Council of Youths and Sports.

#### MB STATEMENT REFUTES CLAIMS CAMP YOUTHS ACT AGAINST STATE

In a related 500-word statement released by the MB on page 8, the MB refutes the Interior Ministry's claims that the youths arrested in the Boy Scout camp near Alexandria were receiving military training.

#### EDITOR SLAMS INACTION OVER BOSNIA, CAMPAIGN AGAINST MB

In a 3,000-word article on page 2, chief editor Majdi Ahmad Husayn asks President Mubarak what he has done for Bosnia at a time when the entire Egyptian people are seething with anger at the disasters afflicting the Bosnian people. He notes that Malaysia has decided to establish a fund to help the Bosnian Muslims to buy arms and the Malaysian leader pledged to supply the Bosnians with arms. United Arab Emirates Leader Al Nuhayyan donated \$50 million and launched a successful campaign on UAE television in solidarity with the Bosnian people. Husayn notes that demonstrations of solidarity and fund-raising campaigns were staged in Tehran, Sudan, Turkey, South Africa, and elsewhere. But Egypt and Mubarak, who claims that Egypt is the site of al-Azhar and hub of genuine Islam, have done nothing. He says that the Egyptian Government's record on the Bosnian crisis is "disgraceful." He says that the



Egyptian regime has blocked popular donations, seminars, and rallies to support the Bosnian Muslims on various pretexts.

Husayn says that the Egyptian Government is not only ignoring the Muslim issues in Bosnia and Jerusalem, it is also launching a "flagrant war" against the Egyptian Islamic movement and its moderate trend—the MB. The Egyptian rulers and their security agencies claim that they have discovered MB organizations here and there, as if the MB does not have 30 members in the People's Assembly and the government newspapers did not publish official MB statements, notably the recent statement by MB leaders denouncing the assassination attempt on President Mubarak in Addis Ababa.

Husayn argues that there is a "political decision to deal painful blows to the MB and, consequently, to the Islamic alliance between the Labor party and the MB." He says that the latest arrest campaign, which involved 200 citizens in one day reflects a serious escalation of the situation and suggests the possibility that the government has made a "secret decision to completely "liquidate the MB in stages." He claims that it is certain that the government aims to "undermine the MB as much as possible before the elections."

Husayn goes on to say that this shows how sad and bankrupt the regime is, adding that the ruling clique is unable to handle its adversaries through peaceful democratic political means and finds that the only way is to liquidate them. He says that this attempt to liquidate its adversaries reflects the regime's weakness and its intention to win the elections crookedly.

Husayn wonders if these means will lead to legitimate elections and whether the seizure of the new People's Assembly seats will give legitimacy to the regime or establish stability. He maintains that the people know how to "grasp their rights and usurped sovereignty." The rulers have "unmasked their ugly face," he says. They are "hostile to Islamic revival, but not to violence and terrorism." They want to "finish off the Islamic movement once and for all." He argues that this is impossible; the rulers will only increase suffering but will not be able to alter the march of history.

Husayn says that the attempt to uproot the Islamic revival means a "blatant declaration of war" against the entire Egyptian people. The rulers do not have the ability to liquidate the people. He says that the rulers insist on plunging the country in an Algerian-like tunnel but the Islamic alliance will "remain firm and stick to its stand." It will not give up peaceful means, not because it is afraid of the rulers or their violence but because "peaceful means is the best way to remove them from office." He says that suppressing the Islamic

trend wrongfully will only "enhance its popularity and increase the dangers for the rulers." He stresses that rigging the elections will entail a heavy price and may open the way for "major confrontations." Husayn claims that the people cannot imagine entering the 21st century while their rulers continue to burden and muzzle them.

Concluding, Husayn notes President Mubarak's remarks to the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-SIYASAH in a recent interview. He says that Mubarak is happy with the situation in Egypt and with the performance of the prime minister and the government. He says that Mubarak indicates that things will continue to proceed normally. He says that President Mubarak must take into account the people's views. Husayn wonders if this can be achieved without elections.

#### WRITER BERATES GOVERNMENT FOR BANNING DONATIONS TO BOSNIANS

In a 700-word article on page 2 entitled "Our Government's Sins Vis-a-Vis the Bosnian People," Dr. al-Shafi'i Bashir wonders what the Egyptian Government will do now that Israel has sent an aircraft loaded with tarpaulins, tents, and medical equipment to Bosnia in response to the humanitarian campaign launched jointly by Israeli Prime Minister Rabin and King Husayn of Jordan. King Husayn also sent Crown Prince Hasan aboard a plane loaded with aid for the Bosnian people. The writer says he is asking the Egyptian Government because it has led a counter-campaign, preventing the collection of donations for the Bosnian people. He claims that the government has carried out the campaign cruelly and even arrested those collecting donations, even though they were venerable people and members of the Doctors Association and Engineers Association. The government referred them to the Higher State Security Prosecution for interrogation because they had failed to get permission to collect donations.

The writer says that he himself sought a permit from the social affairs minister but failed because the authorities view anyone who collects donations for the Bosnian Muslims as an Islamic extremist. He notes that the United Nations has betrayed Bosnia, Muslim towns are being overrun, and the Muslims forced out and massacred. He asks what the Egyptian Government will do about this. He claims that the Egyptian Government by law forbids a jihad in order to help the Bosnian Muslims to defend themselves. He asks if the government will do something to "remove the disgrace of preventing donations and jihad" to assist Muslim brethren who are being slaughtered.

**WRITER VIEWS GOVERNMENT CAMPAIGN  
AGAINST MB**

In a 1,800 word article on page 5 entitled "The Truth Behind the Escalation of the Situation Between the Authorities and Those Who Preach God," Islamic writer 'Abd-al-Mun'im Jabarah claims that the authorities are trying to deny those who adhere to the Muslim Brotherhood's ideology all the rights of citizens that are enshrined in the Constitution and emphasized by all laws, particularly freedom of expression, security, and political, intellectual, and social activity. He says that those who follow the MB's ideology are quite prominent in society and enjoy the people's sympathy, confidence, and understanding. He says the authorities and their sycophantic and hypocritical writers consider the MB supporters to be a minority. Jabarah maintains that those who belong to the moderate Islamic trend want shar'iah and preach God's teachings. These people embody the nation's conscience, beliefs, and character. They are being exposed to a campaign of arrests that prevents them from making a living and preaching God's ways. He says that the information media, which is controlled by the government, even distorts the image of these people and defames them. The information media is thus losing its important role of enlightening the people and highlighting objective facts. It is misleading the public and preventing objective discussions of the issues that concern the nation. The media portrays the calls for applying shari'ah and its advocates as extremists and terrorists. As a matter of fact, he says, it is the preachers and advocates of Islam who are exposed to all forms of terrorism and arrests by the authorities, denying them the opportunity to run in the elections, particularly because they enjoy wide popularity and public trust. In conclusion, Jabarah sets forth his views on addressing the vital issues that concern the people.

**WRITER AGAINST SEPARATING RELIGION  
AND STATE**

In his 500-word back page column, Islamic writer Muhammad 'Abd-al-Quddus discusses the call for the separation of religion and the state as a basis for progress. He says experience shows that the Arab countries that have separated religion and state have failed to make progress or to solve the problems of the masses. Their peoples have suffered terribly under the slogans of socialism and unity. He says that the Islamic countries that marginalized Islam in the various domains of life have been and will remain a burden for their peoples. Democracy, he argues, is not synonymous to the separation of religion and state. He says that the secular governments that have ruled Islamic peoples have caused disasters in the name of progress. He

maintains that he has consistently rejected the rule of force, even in the name of Islam.

**WRITER DENOUNCES JORDANIAN-ISRAELI  
AID TO BOSNIA**

In an 800-word last page article, al-Sayyid al-Ghadban reviews Jordanian King Husayn's secret contacts with Israel since he came to power. He then discusses how King Husayn used the Israeli-Palestinian peace agreement to rush headlong to conclude peace with Israel and normalize ties with it. Claiming joint Jordanian-Israeli "theatricals" of sending planes loaded with aid to the Bosnian Muslims, he says the Jordanian media highlighted the incident, forgetting the thousands of Palestinians suffering in Israeli jails. He says Israeli Prime Minister Rabin is using Jordan as a "Trojan horse" to penetrate the Islamic World. He notes that people all over the world will see on television Jordanian and Israeli planes landing in Bosnia at the same time on a humanitarian mission to help the beleaguered Muslims. World public opinion will think that Israel has indeed achieved peace with the Arabs. He argues that when world public opinion see the Palestinian masses demonstrating against Israeli occupation and repression, it will consider them motivated by extremists and terrorists. Similarly, Syrian refusal to accept the Israeli formula for peace will seem intransigent and a rejection of peace. Al-Ghadban concludes by saying that the Arab and Muslim masses reject this Israeli-Jordanian theatrics.

**Palestinian Affairs****'Arafat To Talk With Peres, Meet Mubarak in  
Egypt**

JN0808063095 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic  
0500 GMT 8 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] President Yasir 'Arafat and the Israeli foreign minister will at noon today resume talks on issues related to the redeployment of the Israeli occupation army in the occupied Palestinian territories. The Palestinian-Israeli talks were suspended last night after more than five hours of negotiations in Taba. Sources in the Palestinian delegation said negotiations between President 'Arafat and Peres have made a slight progress in the area of rescheduling the redeployment of the occupation troops. Marwan Kanafani, President 'Arafat's adviser, considered this progress an achievement for the Palestinian people. He said other issues are still under discussion.

In a related development, Shim'on Peres said that some progress has been achieved. He added: We are about to finish some files while others require more discussion

by delegates. He said: Large progress has been made on an extremely important topic, and we are close to reaching agreement on it.

President Yasir 'Arafat is expected to arrive in Alexandria for talks with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. Talks will deal with the latest developments of the Palestinian-Israeli negotiations on the redeployment of the Israeli army in the West Bank.

#### 'Arafat Receives Israeli Arab Front Delegates

JN0608192695 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic  
1800 GMT 6 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] President Yasir 'Arafat has received a delegation from the [Israeli] Democratic Front for Peace and Equality led by Knesset member Hashim Mahamid. The delegation included Front secretary Muhammad Barakah and a number of Front leaders.

Following the meeting, Hashim Mahamid said: Our meeting with President Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], which was held in the presence of al-Tayyib 'Abd-al-Rahim, secretary general of the presidency, was very important. It was also a very cordial and open meeting during which we lauded the president's courage and wisdom. We also hailed the National Authority which seeks to achieve the Palestinian people's objectives.

Mahamid added: We discussed the regional peace process, our expectations for the future, and our consistent positions in support of the peace process and of coexistence between the Palestinian and Israeli peoples, as well as enhancing the economic cooperation in various fields among the peoples of the region.

Major General Nasr Yusuf, director general of public security, also received the Front delegation. They discussed the future of the Israeli settlements in the West Bank and various political issues.

During its visit to Gaza city today, the delegation also met with Staff Brigadier General Mahmud Abu-Marzuq, director general of the Palestinian civil defense.

#### Official on Israeli Court Ruling on al-Aqsa

JN0708163895 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic  
1111 GMT 7 Aug 95

[From the "Today's Events" program]

[FBIS Translated Text] Ladies and gentlemen: President Yasir 'Arafat will meet with Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres in Taba today to discuss the obstacles facing the Palestinian-Israeli negotiations.

The Israeli occupation authorities closed the gates of the holy al-Aqsa Mosque yesterday to prevent encroachments on the sanctity of this blessed mosque

and of man in the wake of the attempts by Jewish extremists to enter the mosque's courtyard after the Israeli Supreme Court permitted them to enter the mosque.

Al-Tayyib 'Abd-al-Rahim, secretary general of the Palestinian Presidency, has said:

[Begin 'Abd-al-Rahim recording] Naturally, we declared our position very clearly on this unjust, illegitimate, and unacceptable Israeli decision. This decision is rejected by our people as well as the Arab and Muslim people.

This decision is an encroachment on our holy places and an attempt by some people to pass legislation on something they do not own, and who do not have the right to pass such legislation. Jerusalem and our holy places are Palestinian, Arab, and Islamic places. They are also an occupied territory to which Resolution 242 is applicable.

Even in accordance with the Declaration of Principles, Jerusalem is among the issues deferred until the final solution. Hence, it is impermissible for any Israeli circle, whether governmental, judicial, or any other circle, to determine its destiny or make a decision that harms our right to our holy places and land.

We talked to the Arab League Council yesterday, which convened at the level of representatives. The council immediately adopted this issue as its first topic. It issued a statement condemning the Israeli court ruling and the conduct of the so-called Temple Mount Faithful. The council also urged the Israeli Government to confront these persons and end their practices because these encroachments violate the feelings of Arabs and Muslims on all levels, and no one can predict the reaction to this conduct.

The Israeli Government, police, and army, can adopt measures to prevent settler attacks on worshippers. We expect the Israeli Government to eliminate the settler militias, which want to undermine the peace process in a clear and exposed manner.

We in the Palestinian Awqaf Ministry have decided to mark the sacred historic anniversary of Prophet Muhammad's birthday for three days at the al-Aqsa Mosque.

I have urged our people everywhere to take part in these celebrations and confront the attempts at desecrating [al-Aqsa Mosque] and the attempts which resemble what happened in the Ibrahimi Mosque. This is the beginning, and we should forestall these attempts and abort them right from the start.



A short while ago, we saw off President 'Arafat who left for Egypt to join the negotiations with Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres. We expect the Israeli side to resolve many issues, including the security arrangements, Hebron, and the second redeployment following the election of a Palestinian council.

There should be a timetable for Area C, which is outside Area B. We should also receive all powers even in Area C. These powers should not be divided. We should also receive our water needs, and our right to water should be preserved and recognized.

There are other issues, including what is currently happening in the al-Aqsa Mosque and the spiteful encroachments by the settlers in some West Bank areas whether in the north, south, or center near Ramallah.

We have shown all possible flexibility to reach an agreement on the transitional phase. However, we are facing a mentality which has been superseded by time; namely, the mentality which believes that security can be achieved through a checkpoint here, patrols there, and imposing certain restrictions. The Israeli side should know that we are the bedrock and that it is the exception, and not the other way round.

The Palestinian Authority has clearly proved its ability to control the situation, maintain security, and preserve our people's interests in Gaza and Jericho. Hence, the exaggerations about security, the interpretations on the security arrangements, and the setting of impossible conditions will complicate matters and cannot lead to a solution.

From this premise, we believe that we are about to enter a new phase in which we can control the situation. Consequently, the Israeli side must show sufficient and necessary flexibility regarding the disputed issue of Hebron in order to remove the obstacles impeding an agreement on the transitional phase.

Of course we would like to be optimistic, but these problems are serious and real. I cannot thus far give you a final opinion. [end recording]

#### **Al-Husayni Fears Attack by Israeli Extremists**

TA0808085295 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT  
in Hebrew 8 Aug 95 p 3

[Report by Itamar Eichner, Yuval Peleg, and the military affairs correspondent]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Faysal al-Husayni is afraid that extreme right-wing elements plan to assassinate him.

Al-Husayni expressed this apprehension during a meeting with Ornan Yequti'eli, the head of the Meretz fac-

tion in the Jerusalem Municipality, and Citizens Rights Movement [a component of Meretz] secretary general Zehava Gal-On, held in the wake of the four shooting incidents near his house in the last two months, in which right-wing activists were involved.

"The immediate release of the assailants gives settlers the go-ahead to threaten and attack," al-Husayni says. He claims to have reliable information according to which extreme right-wing elements are following him everywhere he goes. "Every time shots have been fired near my house, this has happened 10 minutes after I had arrived home," he noted. Al-Husayni praised Israel Police's efforts to guard him. [passage omitted]

#### **'Abbas on Peace, Syria Ties, Disarming Factions**

MM0708131095 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT  
in Arabic 5 Aug 95 p 2

[Unattributed report: "Abu-Mazin Warns Israel Not To Close the Doors to Peace"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Tunis, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT — PLO Executive Committee member Mahmud 'Abbas (Abu-Mazin) has warned Israel not continue the policy of closing the doors to progress in the peace process. He said that it is necessary for Israel to deal with the peace process both seriously and responsibly, and to respect what it signed in Washington and Cairo.

In a statement to AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT, Abu-Mazin, architect of the Oslo agreement, stressed the need for Israel to understand that the Palestinian people should have an independent economy in which the Palestinian Authority takes control of all available resources, first and foremost water, energy, and so on.

Abu-Mazin criticized the United States for not playing its real role as a sponsor of the peace process, pointing out that the word "sponsor" does not mean sponsoring the results but sponsoring the beginnings in order to achieve the results. Abu-Mazin's criticism was not limited to the U.S. sponsor. The Russian sponsor too was criticized for abandoning the negotiations and what is happening in them. In this connection Abu-Mazin expressed his fear that the Russian sponsor's role might be excluded because of its preoccupation with other issues. He said that Russia — if it wants to — can play its role fully as a sponsor of the negotiations, namely by assigning a number of experienced politicians to follow up the Palestinian-Israeli negotiations file.

Abu-Mazin once again called on the donor states to commit themselves to the pledges they made to the Palestinian Authority to make the peace process a success.



Abu-Mazin stressed that there is no logical reason for continuing the tension between Syria and the PLO. He said that, if a solution is achieved on the Syrian track, it will be in the Palestinian people's interests.

Abu-Mazin pointed out that a comprehensive solution formula was agreed during an Arab coordination meeting and that any party can solve its own problems with Israel in order for the solution to be more comprehensive within the framework of collective coordination with a view to securing a final solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict. Abu-Mazin renewed his call for all Palestinian factions to be disarmed. He said that Fatah should be the one to begin to do so. Abu-Mazin said that the present Palestinian opposition's prime concern is to destroy the authority — which is not opposition. An opposition "should work to correct the mistakes."

**Selection of 'Arafat Deputies Tops Meetings' Agenda**

JN0508091295 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 5 Aug 95  
pp 28, 25

[Report by 'Awdah 'Awdah in Amman]

[FBIS Translated Text] Postponing the two meetings of the Revolutionary Council and the Fatah Movement's Central Committee [FMCC], which were scheduled for Monday [31 July] in Cairo, has delayed the discussions on choosing two deputies for Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat.

Leading sources in the Fatah Movement, the largest PLO faction, told AL-RA'Y that choosing two deputies for 'Arafat, one in the territories and the other outside the territories, topped the agenda of the two postponed meetings.

These sources added: In the Revolutionary Council meeting, it was expected to choose Faruq Qaddumi, also known as Abu-al-Lutf, secretary of the FMCC, as 'Arafat's first deputy outside the territories, and Mahmud 'Abbas, also known as Abu-Mazin, or Faysal al-Husayni, as 'Arafat's second deputy in the territories despite the fact that Salim al-Za'nun, Hani al-Hasan, and Abu-Mahir Ghunaym also desire this post. These are three important names in the FMCC and among its founders. Recently, there has been a talk about choosing a deputy for 'Arafat following the attempt to assassinate Egyptian President Husni Mubarak in Addis Ababa.

Replying to a question posed by AL-RA'Y, Salim al-Za'nun, member of the FMCC and a founder of the Fatah Movement, said: When the plane of Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] crashed in the Libyan desert three years ago, we had no leadership problem because it was well-known that Faruq Qaddumi, Abu-al-Lutf, would lead

the FMCC and the PLO Executive Committee in case President 'Arafat is absent for one reason or another. This is so because Qaddumi is second-in-command to Abu-'Ammar.

Al-Za'nun added: It is fun to say that when His Eminence Shaykh 'Abd-al-Hamid al-Sa'ih suspended the meetings of the PLO Central Council in Tunis due to the crash of Abu-'Ammar's plane in the Libyan desert in 1992, I, accompanied by Abu-al-Lutf, traveled to Libya. We visited Abu-'Ammar in hospital and he was in a very difficult condition and sad about the two pilots who were martyred while trying to protect him with their bodies.

He continued: When we returned to the hotel, I entered Abu-al-Lutf's room by mistake and I saw him standing near the window and raising his hands. I asked him: What are you doing. Abu-al-Lutf said: I am thanking God because I have been the deputy of Abu-'Ammar for no more than 24 hours. I thank God because 'Arafat escaped and because I cannot assume this responsibility.

Al-Za'nun said: In case the post of the PLO Executive Committee chairman becomes vacant, it is commonly understood that the head of the PLO Political Department will be a temporary chairman. As for the Palestinian state declared in 1988, an article of its constitutional regulations says that if the post of the state's president becomes vacant for any reason, the speaker of the Palestine National Council [PNC] will become a temporary president for a period not exceeding 60 days.

He added: In the first instance, the PLO Executive Committee will be called to elect a new chairman. In the second instance; namely, when the post of the president of the Palestinian state becomes vacant, the PNC will be called to elect a new president of the state. Choosing one or more deputies for President 'Arafat was not discussed in the PNC's previous meetings and sessions.

Taysir Qub'ah, deputy speaker of the PNC, told AL-RA'Y that in the coming 21st PNC session he will propose choosing one or more deputies for the chairman of the PLO Executive Committee. He pointed out that several attempts were made at previous PNC sessions to choose a deputy for President 'Arafat but they failed.

It is noteworthy that the former PLO heads; namely late Ahmad al-Shuqayri and Yahya Hammudah, did not have any deputy. However, President 'Arafat had lawyer Ibrahim Bakr as his deputy. Bakr resigned several months after he assumed this post before 1970.

**Aviation Official Denies Contacts on Airport***JN0708180195 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic  
1137 GMT 7 Aug 95*

[Telephone interview with Brigadier General Fayiz Zaydan, director general of the Palestinian Civil Aviation Department, by Jamal Mi'ari; place and date not given; from the "Today's Events" feature — recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Mi'ari] Brigadier General Fayiz Zaydan, director general of the Palestinian Civil Aviation Department [PCAD], good evening.

[Zaydan] Good evening.

[Mi'ari] Some papers issued this morning report on contacts between Palestinian and Jordanian businessmen on the one hand and an Israeli airlines company on the other to begin joint flights between Palestine and Jordan. How true is this?

[Zaydan] In fact, nobody has contacted us over this issue. Like you, we read in the newspapers that there is a group of Jordanian and Palestinian businessmen holding contacts with the Israeli (Kenevi Yerushalyim) Airlines to establish a joint airlines company to begin flights between Qalandiyah Airport in Jerusalem and Marka Airport in Amman. Nobody contacted us. We, the Palestinian National Authority [PNA] and PCAD view this subject with extreme seriousness.

[Mi'ari] Why so?

[Zaydan] In principle, according to international norms, this is an occupied Palestinian airport. A number of resolutions have been issued by the International Civil Aviation Organization, ICAO, banning the use of this airport as long as it is under the authority of the Israeli occupation. Those resolutions were issued in 1974 and 1980. Most of them were based on Resolution 478 of 1980 deeming null and void any measures by Israeli occupation authorities to change the geographical and demographic features of Jerusalem and its vicinity, including Qalandiyah Airport. The seriousness of this subject lies in the fact that any violation of this ban means that most world airlines will use Qalandiyah Airport. Consequently, this would mean recognition of the Israeli authority over Qalandiyah Airport. Israel views recognition of its authority over Qalandiyah Airport as a first step toward recognition of its authority over Jerusalem. Therefore, the PNA and the PCAD categorically refuse to deal with this subject. We cannot accept under any circumstances that the airport be operated. We will take all possible measures to prevent its use by any side unless it is operated by the PNA, represented by the PCAD.

[Mi'ari] Brig. Gen. Fayiz, since Qalandiyah Airport is considered part of the occupied Palestinian territory, will you raise it for discussion within the current negotiations with the Israelis?

[Zaydan] At present, as known, Qalandiyah airport is part of the Jerusalem issue, on which negotiations will start next year.

[Mi'ari] Are there contacts or coordination with some states, particularly Jordan and Egypt, in the field of civil aviation?

[Zaydan] Of course, we are holding continuous contacts with all Arab and foreign states on the PCAD and its future. But since we are talking about Qalandiyah Airport, I would like on this occasion to salute the concerned Jordanian and Palestinian businessmen, and request them to completely stop thinking about projects related to Qalandiyah Airport investment. This is because they will be given every opportunity to invest in this field as soon as the airport is operated by the PNA. Therefore, there is no need to be impatient or to fall into the Israeli trap, because they may be wasting their money. The PNA will spare no effort to prevent anybody from using the airport, whether Palestinians, Jordanians, or anybody else. The PLO has been following up this issue since 1975 and secured those resolutions through coordination with Arab states and Jordan in particular. Therefore, the PNA will continue to exert all efforts to maintain the ban on this airport until it is operated by the PNA.

[Mi'ari] Yes, until a final settlement is reached with the Israelis?

[Zaydan] Irrespective of anything, the airport will not be operated. We will not agree to its operation by anybody other than the PNA.

[Mi'ari] Brig. Gen. Fayiz Zaydan, PCAD director general, thank you very much.

[Zaydan] You are welcome.

**'Arafat Receives Birthday Congratulations From Saddam***JN0508063195 Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic  
0500 GMT 5 Aug 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] President Yasir 'Arafat has received a cable on his birthday from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn embodying his warm congratulations and brotherly feelings. President Saddam Husayn prayed the Almighty to grant his excellency the president good health and long life and the Palestinian people success in their great struggle to realize their noble aims of freedom and independence.

### Pro-Iraq Parties Elect New Leadership

JN0608201095 Baghdad Iraq Television Network  
in Arabic 1700 GMT 6 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The second congress of the Palestinian Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Organization has elected a new leadership for itself and the Arab Liberation Front [ALF] Central Committee. During the congress, held last July, comrade Rakkad Mahmud Salim, also known as Abu-Mahmud, was elected secretary of the leaderships of the Palestinian Organization and the ALF Central Committee.

A news conference held in Baghdad today, attended by the comrade secretary of the Palestinian Organization leadership, Abu-Mahmud, announced that the congress had issued a statement in which it hailed the high militant spirit of the masses of our heroic Palestinian people and our glorious Arab nation—a spirit which was derived from the great spirit of jihad of the historic duel, the eternal Mother of Battles.

The congress stressed that the Iraq of leader mujahid Saddam Husayn waged the historic, overall, eternal Mother of Battles in defense of the nation's past, present, and future and that the victory scored by its people in breaking the unjust blockade is a victory for the nation in defense of its desire for revival and progress.

The statement says that Iraq is the Arabs' fortress and the symbol of their strength and steadfastness and that the eternal Mother of Battles, led by the knight of the nation, comrade leader mujahid Saddam Husayn, is a victory for the Arabs to start a new age of revival, prosperity, strength, and progress.

The statement also stresses that standing in Iraq's trench, the trench of the eternal Mother of Battles, is a victory for the Palestine question and its Arabism, the central cause of the Arabs. This, it adds, should prompt the masses of the nation and their militant vanguards to turn this issue into a daily struggle to confront evil designs and suspect solutions and to restore to the Arab struggle its vitality, warmth, and capability in order to move from a defensive to an offensive position.

The second congress of the Palestinian Organization fully discussed issues listed on its agenda, chief of which were two reports on political and organizational issues, as well as various Palestinian and Arab developments under the current international circumstances.

The participants in the congress, attended by the representatives of the party inside and outside occupied Palestine, acquainted themselves with developments in the Palestinian national action and the dangers facing the Palestine question as a result of agreements reached

with the Zionist enemy, particularly the Oslo and Cairo agreements and their consequences.

The congress reiterated its categorical rejection of the Oslo and Cairo agreements, as well as the Palestinian concessions, which have legalized the Zionist usurpation of Palestine and enabled the Zionist entity to spread its security, political, and economic control even over the Palestinian self-rule areas. The statement stresses that these agreements relinquish the inalienable legitimate and historical rights of our people in their national land and also abandons struggle to achieve the goals and regain the full rights. These agreements it says, are an attempt to encroach on the right of the Palestinian and Arab generations to struggle to liberate Palestine, which is for the entire Palestinian Arab people, the glorious Arab nation, and future generations.

In its statement, the congress of the Palestinian Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Organization said that the policy of abandoning rights and making concessions to the Zionist enemy will only inflict further harm on the Palestinian national cause and pose grave dangers to the overall Arab state of affairs. The congress warned against any attempt to amend the Palestinian National Charter, contending that such a serious development would be a flagrant violation of the Palestinian constants and taboos that could further exacerbate the Palestinian state of affairs and push it toward a conflagration and civil war. Such an eventuality would promote the interests of the Zionist enemy and its objectives of exhausting our people's resources and potentials in side conflicts away from the basic arena of conflict.

In its statement, the congress urged all factions, strata, and groups of the Palestinian people to firmly confront the attempts to amend the Palestinian National Charter, to oppose the agreements reached with the Zionist entity, to work by all means to thwart them, and to promote the various forms of resistance to occupation, chief among which is armed struggle.

In its organizational report, the congress thoroughly debated the ALF's tactical situation in light of the requirements of the jihad situation and out of the need to promote and continue the Palestinian people's struggle and jihad until the achievement of all their objectives and the realization of all their inalienable historical rights to their national soil.

The congress adopted several measures pertaining to the work of the ALF in order to activate its role on the Palestinian scene. In accordance with the party's democratic traditions, the congress has elected a new command for the Palestinian Organization. Comrade Husayn Rahhal, also known as Abu-'Amir, has been elected as deputy secretary of the Palestinian Organization and of



the ALF Central Committee. Moreover, comrade Nasif 'Awwad has been elected as member of the Palestinian Organization Command and member of the ALF Central Committee. Comrade Ahmad al-Sufi has been elected as member of the Palestinian Organization Command, member of the ALF Central Committee, and official in charge of the Cultural and Media Bureau. Several other brother comrades were elected as members of the Organization Command and the ALF Command.

At a news conference attended by comrade Abu-Shihab [not further identified], member of the Organization Command and member of the ALF Central Committee, comrade Rakkad Mahmud Salim, also known as Abu-Mahmud, secretary of the Palestinian Organization and of the ALF Central Committee, has asserted that the Organization's Command has continued its contacts and coordination with the Palestinian factions opposed to the peace process with the Zionist enemy. He indicated that several meetings with them have been held in occupied Palestine. He added that the Palestinian Organization Command is currently considering a draft working paper on the launching of a national front opposed to capitulatory solutions, and also on joint action to thwart the agreements reached with the Zionist enemy.

Comrade Rakkad went on to say that the statement of the second congress of the Palestinian Organization was distributed in the occupied territories today. He noted that the first congress of the Palestinian Organization was held on 25 November 1991.

It is to be recalled that comrade Rakkad Mahmud Salim, also known as Abu-Mahmud, secretary of the Palestinian Organization Command, was born in the city of al-Kabri, Akko in 1944. He belonged to the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party in the early 60's.

#### **'Hizballah-Palestine' Disputes Hamas Bus Bomb Claim**

MM0708152695 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic  
5 Aug 95 pp 1, 6

[Report by Ibrahim Humaydi: "'Hizballah-Palestine' Challenges Hamas on the Ramat Gan Operation"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Damascus — Ahmad Muhanna, leader of "Hizballah-Palestine," has reaffirmed his movement's responsibility for the bomb explosion on an Israeli bus in Ramat Gan near Tel Aviv on 24 July in which eight Israelis were killed, and [said] that Jamal Fayiz al-Yusuf, the 30-year-old perpetrator of the suicide operation, "was a Palestinian who lived in Jordan and carried a Jordanian passport." He added that he had held contacts with the leaders of the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) which

recently claimed responsibility for blowing up the Israeli bus.

The "Hizballah-Palestine" leader (who broke away from the Islamic Jihad Movement in Palestine led by Fathi al-Shaqaqi) told AL-HAYAH that he suggested "to the Hamas leadership that we send one person to the home of the perpetrator of the operation in Jordan and another to the home of the person called Abu-Mus'ab in the Hamas claim, to verify who really carried out the operation, provided the matter remains a secret between us." He added: "In our contacts I told them that we did not wish to claim the blood of anyone nor steal the struggle of any movement, just as we do not want anyone to steal our struggle or falsely claim the blood of any martyr."

On the reasons for the delay in claiming responsibility for the operation, Abu-Hasan [Muhanna], who was passing through Damascus, said that he was waiting for "confirmation from inside [the territories], and I did indeed receive a fax message saying that any party claiming responsibility for the operation would be lying, and may God have mercy on the soul of brother Jamal. We also preferred to delay it for security reasons." He quoted Abu-Muhammad Mustafa, Hamas' representative in Damascus, as saying that "there was no confirmation or denial as to who carried out the operation but that is up to the 'Izz-al-Din al-Qassam Battalions. But I asked him, why were the battalions late in claiming responsibility and why did you not distribute a video tape of the suicide man as was your custom? Why did Shaykh Ibrahim al-Yazuri (a Hamas leader in Gaza) deny Hamas' responsibility for the operation? Why did you not mention the real name of Abu-Mus'ab and initiate condolences as usual? And why did the Israeli security authorities say that the fingerprints of the suicide person indicated that he was not from the West Bank or the Gaza Strip? But Abu-Muhammad Mustafa did not answer." Muhanna added: "But we did send word to the family of Jamal Fayiz al-Yusuf in Jordan and ask them to delay announcing anything."

Muhanna threatened the Israelis "with more operations in the near future, God willing. That operation will be followed by other operations." He added: "We have good relations with Iran as an Islamic state which also gives us financial aid." [passage omitted]



**Hamas Communique Lashes Out at Authority**

MM0708101895 London FILASTIN AL-MUSLIMAH  
in Arabic Aug 95 p 7

[Hamas Communique No. 125: "No to Discrimination and Division.... Yes to the Release of the Detainees"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Islamic Resistance Movement Hamas has saluted the revolutionary detainees in the prisons of the occupation and declared its determination to continue with the option of holy struggle and resistance until the elimination of the occupation. It affirmed its strong rejection of the [Palestinian] Authority's practices against its commanders and leaders and its denunciation of the abominable crime it has committed against them. The Hamas communique said:

Our patient Palestinian people: The first of July has passed and the facts have become clear. They said that the strugglers' operations have been the cause of the delay in widening the autonomous rule in the West Bank, and that they have been the reason for the deterioration of the living and economic conditions of our people! Now the days have come to debunk their false claims and baseless allegations and to affirm that the 1 July was no more than yet another of the "unholy" Zionist dates. Indeed, have the Zionists ever kept any promises or pledges? Since when have they been keen on honoring a pledge or a promise?!

Despite all the successive failures, which came as no surprise to our people, and despite the arrogance and haughtiness of the occupation and its humiliation of our people and the Authority they have created, the autonomous rule Authority insists on pursuing its squandering attitude, which will lead to nothing but more retractions and more yielding of rights and more submission to the conditions of the Zionists, who time has proven offer nothing to our people other than crumbs.

The more arrogant and obstinate the enemy becomes and after every failure or frustration, the autonomous rule Authority shows greater determination, obstinacy, and insistence on persisting with its wrong course and with its marching along the road of submission to the Zionist conditions.

We wish matters had stopped at this. For the Authority's security institutions could not restrain themselves from assaulting our people's honorable men, learned men, and strugglers and detaining, pursuing them, and opening fire at them, thus trampling all religious and national values.

The practices committed by the Authority's institutions are very grave, so much so that even the authorities of the treacherous occupation could not dare to commit

them, despite the crimes the occupation authorities have committed against our people and the grudges they hold for our people and strugglers.

Hamas has shown an utmost degree of self-restraint throughout the past period despite the ferocity of the assaults and oppressive practices committed against our strugglers and the sons of our people. But matters have gone far enough and the criminals will reap what their hands have sown. Our people shall lay in wait for them.

What sort of Authority is that which leaves the doors open to agents and traitors to murder the strugglers and free men of our people, as has recently happened in the case of martyr Mahmud al-Khawaja, and then lets their crimes pass without their being punished or brought to task, at a time when this Authority shakes nervously and rushes to mobilize all its forces if a Zionist soldier or a Zionist settler is killed or wounded.

What sort of patriotism is this which permits attacks on the venerated ulema and strugglers of our people and our nation?! What sort of a national authority is this which seeks to subdue our people to the abominable Zionist occupation under false banners?!

Our revolutionary Palestinian people:

The Authority's campaign of detentions and assaults against the sons of our people has coincided with our people's revolution and overwhelming intifadah in solidarity with our people's heroes who are detained in the prisons of the occupation. What hypocrisy and what contradiction the Authority has been practicing!! How can our people believe that the Authority interacts with the detainees of our people in the occupation prisons and stands on their side when it itself is committing against our people the same practices of the occupation, thus carrying out acts of detention, torture, and bestial barbaric assaults against them that are no different from those of the Zionist occupation authorities!

Our people have declared, through their new intifadah — for the sake of which they have offered martyrs, injured sons, and more detainees — their rejection of the continued oppression, the occupation, and the aggression against the liberties of their sons and the right of all of them to live in pride and dignity, irrespective whence such assaults come and at the hands of which authority.

So greetings to the revolutionary heroes of our people who are detained in the prisons of the occupation. Greetings to all sons of our people who are rebelling against oppression and injustice. Greetings to martyr commander Tahir Qaffishah, the hero of al-Qassam and Hebron and the hero martyr Mu'awiyah Rukah.

Let there be greater support for and solidarity with the detained heroes of our people in all prisons and detention camps.

As it declares its insistence on pursuing the option of struggle and resistance until the elimination of the occupation, Hamas reiterates its strong rejection of all the actions committed by the Authority against the Hamas leaders and strugglers and its condemnation of the abominable crime the Authority has committed against them. Hamas calls for the following:

First: In the external field:

- 1) The Hamas Movement calls on the brothers in Egypt and Sudan to put an end to the escalation [of the crisis between them] and to resolve their differences through fraternal dialogue.
- 2) The Hamas Movement calls on the Arab and Islamic nation to shoulder its responsibilities toward the practices of the autonomous rule Authority against our people, our learned men, and our strugglers and to bring pressure to bear on the Authority so it stops its practices and aggressions.
- 3) The Hamas Movement calls on the Arab and Islamic nation to show solidarity with our detained heroes in the prisons of both the occupation and the Palestinian Authority headed by Shaykh Ahmad Yasin, who is suffering from extremely difficult health conditions.

Second: On the internal level.

- 1) The Hamas Movement denounces the crime committed by the Palestinian Authority against Dr. Mahmud al-Zahhar, Shaykh Ahmad Bahr, and Shaykh Salamah al-Safadi and asks the Authority to immediately release all detainees. The Movement also condemns the Authority's aggression against our banished heroes and calls upon it to immediately stop these suppressive acts.
- 2) The Hamas Movement heralds to our people martyr Tahir Qaffishah, the hero of Hebron; the heroes Mu'awiyah Rukah and Mahmud al-Khawaja; martyrs 'Abd al-Nasir Salah, Hasan Abu Thuraya, and Darwish Abu Hatlah, the martyrs of the border incidents; and the martyrs of the town of Nabulus.
- 3) The Hamas Movement calls upon our Palestinian people to continue their solidarity with the detained heroes of our people and declares its rejection of the Authority's attempts and agreements with the occupation authorities to discriminate between the detainees on the basis of their affiliations.
- 4) The Hamas Movement denounces the Authority's attacks on the Islamic charity institutions and condemns its disgraceful failure to pursue the agents and put an

end to their practices and the crimes they commit against the sons of our people.

[Dated] 8 Safar 1916 of the Hegira corresponding to 6 July 1995

#### **Article Views Corruption, Nepotism in Gaza**

**TA0708103695 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM TIMES**  
*in English 4 Aug 95 p 5*

[Report by Iyad Sarraj]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Stories about relationships between officials and business people involving corruption, nepotism and bribery are being told at all kinds of gatherings by people in Gaza nowadays. Jokes are going round, while faces express satisfaction whenever proof is presented. The talk usually ends in hand-slapping and sighs filling the air, our cynicism confirmed. There is no doubt that there are people running up and down the corridors of offices, their mouths watering for more money. Thought this may not be happening in every office all the time and all over the country, it certainly adds to the chaos and disorder. A prime example was when the Israeli troops withdrew from the Gaza Strip last year. Chaos, embezzlement, building without permits — all of these flourished, and the place became a sanctuary for crooks and delinquents.

Our problem is corruption. The tribal system had always regulated our lives so that we lack the feeling that the state and its interests are directly connected with us. Tribes and families are the main source of our stability and security, while the official departments are for foreigners who spend their money on us whenever they feel like it, and according to their own interests.

With the formation of a new type of feudalism, nepotism and bribery have become part of the fabric of society. Those who received privileges as a result of the patronage of foreign leaders became an "aristocracy" who started serving foreign interests, satisfying them by oppressing the hapless people. As the relationship between the Palestinian "lords" and their foreign leaders strengthened, tribal importance grew at the expense of patriotism, since municipal councils were established, with the consent of foreign leaders according to tribal distribution and power. These leaders were always keen to promote competition among tribes and various families in order to control and domesticate them.

One of the unfortunate consequences of this inter-tribal rivalry, particularly in the contemporary period, has been the loss in identification with the homeland. In order to gain a position in the municipal council, or some senior rank, the "leaders" would happily trample

over these feelings. And in the process, many became masters in the art of bribery.

Unprincipled foreign rulers, an ambitious local "nobility" and remnants of tribal loyalty, all sustained by lip-service to the national interest — these are the roots of corruption.

This is the first time in our history that we have had a national authority, but with the tribal system still endemic the potential for graft remains. The only hope for the country is to have equality before the law and firmness in implementing it. The authority itself should be an example in fair dealing. People should feel that they are responsible for building the infrastructure of a sane society.

### Arab-Israeli Talks

#### Palestinian Negotiator Notes 'Wide' Gap in Talks

JN0408115395 *Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic*  
1100 GMT 4 Aug 95

[Telephone interview with Ahmad Quray', Palestinian minister of trade and economy and head of the Palestinian team negotiating with Israel, by Ibrahim Milhim, on 4 July; place not given; from the "Today's Events" program — recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Milhim] Palestinian negotiator Ahmad Quray': Did the current round of negotiations with the Israelis end today?

[Quray'] Yes, this round ended today following a week of intensive and hard work.

[Milhim] What was achieved in this important round of negotiations in Elat?

[Quray'] The progress that took place, I cannot really call it important progress in this negotiating progress and agreement. Some progress was made in the civilian areas and the transfer of powers, despite the fact that these have not been finalized. However, some progress took place in this field. Also, there was some progress in the formulation of the general agreement and the crystallization of the points of agreement and disagreement. But regrettably there remain the major and essential issues, which are the basis of the agreement. The gap is still wide. The stalemate is still there regarding the redeployment and the completion of the Palestinian authority's jurisdiction. In addition, the gap has not been bridged regarding the security issues.

[Milhim] So other than the issue of water, there are still issues which remain to be resolved?

[Quray'] No doubt, the major issues not only regarding water. There is a serious disagreement over the issue of water. There are differences over the issue of electricity,

and there are also differences over the planning and zoning [preceding two words in English] regarding the territories.

[Milhim] Ahmad Quray', minister of trade and economy in the National Authority and Palestinian negotiator, when will there be another round of negotiations?

[Quray'] The second round should begin next week on Monday [7 August] at the same place.

[Milhim] We wish you success.

[Quray'] Thank you.

#### Kanafani: Slight Progress Achieved in Taba Talks

JN0708193995 *Jericho Voice of Palestine in Arabic*  
1800 GMT 7 Aug 95

[Interview with Marwan Kanafani, adviser to and spokesman for Yasir 'Arafat, by 'Arif Salim in Taba "a short while ago"—recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Salim] Marwan Kanafani, adviser to President Yasir 'Arafat, good evening.

[Kanafani] Good evening.

[Salim] Could you brief us on the ongoing talks in Taba between President Yasir 'Arafat and Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres?

[Kanafani] Yes, I left the meeting to speak with you for a while. I will tell you what has happened since our arrival here. As you know, we arrived at approximately 1400. On arrival, the president had a telephone conversation with Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa and discussed today's meetings with him. He also received a message from Washington from Dennis Ross, U.S. general coordinator of the peace process. Ross conveyed to President 'Arafat the greetings of the U.S. President and secretary of state, who wished the meeting success. At 1820, President 'Arafat and Minister Peres held a one-hour bilateral meeting. Afterward, members of the two delegations joined them. The meeting is still in session up to this moment. There is slight progress—which I believe to be a good achievement—concerning the redeployment timetable. As you know, this has always been a Palestinian demand. It requires a great deal of concentration, for we had previous experiences in this regard. There is slight progress on this issue. The minister raised new ideas in response to the ideas and working paper presented by the Palestinian delegation. As you know, the president frequently pointed out that these are not negotiations, rather, the negotiations are being held in Elat between the Palestinian and Israeli delegations. The Palestinian delegation is led by brother Abu-'Ala' [Ahmad Quray']. However, this is only a discussion of



matters obstructing the peace process and of the Israeli Government's stand. Certainly, this stand is the decisive factor in any progress in the peace process and whether the Israeli Government is willing and sincere about going ahead with this process and about the spread of the Palestinian National Authority over the entire Palestinian territory.

[Salim] Mr. Kanafani can you elaborate on what you described as progress on the redeployment timetable?

[Kanafani] There are many problems concerning the gaps between the Palestinian and Israeli positions. This was noted two days ago by brother Abu-Ala', head of the Palestinian negotiating team. He said there are viewpoints that are neither identical nor even close between us and the Israelis over almost all issues. On this subject in particular, the Palestinian side has insisted that redeployment be linked to a timetable. Slight progress has been made in this respect.

[Salim] Do you expect this meeting to be decisive in overcoming all obstacles hampering the implementation of the second part of the Declaration of Principles [DOP]?

[Kanafani] President Yasir 'Arafat is determined and sincere about implementing the DOP as signed in letter and in spirit. The agreement, most explicitly, calls for implementing the principle of land for peace. This is the principle on which all Palestinian and Arab contacts with Israel were based. This principle is the basis of the two UN Security Council Resolutions [242 and 338] and the DOP. Therefore, this principle is useful in the sense that there is peace and there is land, and that in their exchange an agreement satisfactory to both sides can be reached. President 'Arafat has always insisted and said that from the Palestinian point of view this is a firm principle, that this is the peace of the brave, and that a real, faithful, and genuine implementation of the DOP will lead everyone to durable peace. All this depends on the Israeli Government and whether it really wishes to arrive at a peace agreement. To arrive at an agreement on the second stage, we must genuinely and faithfully implement the signed agreement which was witnessed by the entire world, and parts of which were signed in various cities—in Washington, Cairo, and Oslo.

[Salim] Marwan Kanafani, we hope that we will have more interviews to cover the details of this important meeting. Thank you.

### Israel Refuses Demand for Withdrawal Map

TA0808065195 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT  
in Hebrew 8 Aug 95 p 2

[Report by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer]

[FBIS Translated Text] Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres and PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat will meet again in Taba today in an attempt to resolve the disputes that are preventing progress on an interim agreement to expand Palestinian self-rule on the West Bank.

The two met in Taba last night accompanied by their chief negotiators Uri Savir and Abu-'Ala [Ahmad Quray']. 'Arafat will report on his meeting with Peres to Egypt's President Mubarak today.

The main dispute between the sides is over the Palestinian demand to receive a detailed map of the IDF's [Israel Defense Forces] withdrawal following elections to the self-rule council in the territories. Under the Declaration of Principles signed in Oslo, the IDF will continue "redeploying" in defined areas of the West Bank. In other words, the IDF will withdraw to defined sites and will hand over to the Palestinians control of wide-ranging areas of the West Bank, in addition to population centers, the cities, and the rural areas, within the framework of the interim accord.

Israel is refusing to give the Palestinians any maps. The position presented in the talks is that at this stage the IDF's redeployment and its withdrawal from the population centers have to be defined in order to permit the Palestinians to hold elections without a military presence. Israel says the IDF's continued withdrawal will be discussed at a later date.

Another issue in dispute is the powers to be granted to the Palestinian police force in hundreds of villages throughout the West Bank. Israel insists on the principle that its security forces will have exclusive overall responsibility for the entire region. Israel is also trying to create a situation whereby there will not be any friction between Israelis residing in the territories and the Palestinian police, an almost impossible task since the settlements are dispersed.

Rabin and Peres are aware of the Palestinians' unceasing efforts to show achievements, which would improve their starting positions in the negotiations on the permanent settlement. The general assumption is that 'Arafat wants to reach an agreement close to the date of the elections for the Palestinian council, but Israelis are divided over when 'Arafat intends to hold the elections. The assessments vary between December 1995 and the spring of 1996.



Our Knesset correspondent Gabi Bron adds: The outline of an agreement to implement stage two of the Oslo accords has already been drafted, Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee yesterday.

Several hours before leaving for his meeting with 'Arafat in Taba, Peres said that in the past negotiating problems were resolved at a higher echelon, and that is what will happen now. This time, a number of issues are involved, such as the IDF's redeployment, the water problem, the distribution of powers in the various regions, and access to the Jewish holy places.

Foreign Minister Peres said there will only be one military force, the IDF, deployed west of the Jordan River. In Judaea and Samaria, there will be neither Jewish nor Arab sovereignty, only a division of powers. In Peres' view, which is supported by IDF Intelligence and other defense elements, the PLO has switched from being a terrorist organization into a political body.

The Likud is initiating an internal decision not to honor the government's commitments to 'Arafat and the Palestinian Authority [PA] if its demand for a national referendum on the agreements with the PA is not met, Knesset Member Moshe Qa'zav announced yesterday.

[Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English on 8 August in a report by David Makovsky on pages 1 and 2, adds: "Israel and the Palestinians remain divided on whether the Palestinians' ultimate control of uninhabited state lands in the territories will be contingent on their success in preventing terrorism, according to an informed source closed to the negotiations." The report says that one compromise being considered "is a three-sided arrangement in Hebron, whereby the IDF, Palestinian police, and an as yet undefined 'international presence' will conduct joint patrols in the city. According to the proposal, all three would have 'stationary and mobile' forces to maintain order in the city."]

## Algeria

### Two Killed in Grenade Attack on Police Bus

*LD0708131295 Paris France-Inter Radio Network in French. 1200 GMT 7 Aug 95*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The Algiers press reports this morning that two attacks were carried out in the suburbs of Algiers yesterday. Selim Battel reports from Algiers:

[Battel] [passage omitted] In Kouba, on the heights overlooking Algiers, an armed commando made a grenade attack on a bus carrying policemen. The number of victims is provisional: two dead and several injured, some of them in a critical condition. There has been no official reaction for the moment; only the independent papers have given the incident prominence on their front pages. [passage omitted]

### Bomb in Boufarik; Security Forces Eliminate 19

*LD0708172795 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic. 1700 GMT 7 Aug 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] A truck bomb went off in Boufarik yesterday, killing eight persons and injuring another 25. The truck bomb was driven by three terrorists who died in the operation, which was aimed at destroying a power station. According to a statement by the security services, the explosion destroyed three private cars and the wall of the power station located outside Boufarik.

On the other hand, 19 terrorists were eliminated during various search operations undertaken by the security forces, the statement says further today. The security forces recovered weapons during these operations, which took place between 3-6 August, in the provinces of Constantine, Tlemcen, Batna, Bouira, Boumerdes, and Tipaza.

### Zeroual Chairs Council of Ministers Session

*LD0708183095 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic. 1900 GMT 7 Aug 95*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The Council of Ministers met today under the chairmanship of State President Liamine Zeroual. It examined important files on draft legislative and organizational laws, presidential elections, and the restructuring of the national economy.

The Council of Ministers endorsed draft legislative texts before their referral to the Transitional National Council. These bills include a draft decree regarding the state's circulating capitals. This text deals with the new procedures for the running of public sector economic enterprises. The new procedures will supersede the current system operated by the Contribution Funds,

whose work ended last June after being temporarily extended.

Another draft decree amends and complements the real estate policy law. This text aims at settling some secondary disagreements, especially those arising from the agricultural revolution. It excludes those who were given land and who acted shamefully during the National Liberation War. It maintains the state's ownership of the tribal and municipal lands.

Another draft order sets the regulations for the running of crafts and vocations with the aim of promoting the activities that are an important source of jobs. Finally, the Council of Ministers ratified the UN agreement on combating decertification.

As for the legal texts, a loan of \$9 million from the Islamic Development Bank was approved. The loan will be used for the purchase of equipment to supply some cities in the northeast with potable water.

It was also agreed to increase Algeria's share in the capital of the African Development Bank, which has often financed Algerian projects.

The Council of Ministers approved individual reports related to universities and local authorities. It also examined the progress in the implementation of economic restructuring, which occupies a prominent place in the government's program. In this respect, the Council listened to a presentation given by Mourad Benachenhou, minister of industrial restructuring and partnership, on industrial restructuring.

Following an in-depth debate, the head of state spoke in length to give his directives on all aspects of economic restructuring whether with relation to its embodiment at the level of production improvement, or the basic restructuring of banks and other financial institutions. He also spoke about the preparation of a coordinated strategy for industrial development and the renewal of the National Planning Council, as well as the procedures taken for the promotion of non-hydrocarbon exports.

The president also concentrated on the steps that should be followed, whether in relation to citizens in general or workers in particular, to make the people aware of the measures capable of achieving the revitalization of the national economy. [passage omitted]

The Council of Ministers also examined the report of the government committee entrusted with preparing the presidential elections. The report was submitted by the prime minister. [passage omitted]

The president announced his decision to extend the term of the government committee that will oversee the elections up to their completion. [passage omitted]

The president also talked about security during the presidential elections and said that state had taken and will take all the necessary measures to guarantee the proper running of the elections in an atmosphere of safety and security. Therefore, he added, the state has undertaken and will undertake its duty to protect the citizens and their property against the criminal violence that is unacceptable under any circumstances. The real intentions behind this violence have become clear and they are a crime against Algeria and Algerians without exception. Therefore, this violence is a challenge we must face as a nation. The president said in this respect: I remind all those who have doubts that the Algerian people have bravely decided to take up the challenge in order to protect and build their country.

President Zeroual said that, alongside the organizational preparations for the presidential elections, the state intended to create mechanisms that will prove the credibility of these consultations. In this respect, he reminded the council of the consultations he will start next week with the parties that support the holding of these elections with the aim of setting up a national independent committee to monitor the elections, specify some practical details of the process, as well as fix the voting date.

Mr. Zeroual also reminded of the decision to invite international observers from the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity, and the Arab League. [passage omitted]

President Zeroual said that the presidential elections were decided upon for this year because the Algerian people refuse the continuation of blockages, and because the Algerian people have begun working for a national recovery. These elections were decided on because Algeria is entitled to ambitions other than paralysis and inaction. These elections will take place in total freedom and transparency. The Algerian people, who are waiting for the elections, will express an independent choice and decision. Everyone in the political class has the right to choose the way in which they submit to the verdict of the Algerian people, Zeroual concluded.

### Egypt

#### Mubarak Receives 'Arafat; Musa in Attendance

NC0808085895 Cairo MENA in Arabic  
0840 GMT 8 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Alexandria, 8 Aug (MENA)—This morning, at the al-Muntazah Palace in Alexandria, President Husni Mubarak received Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat, who arrived earlier today at al-Nuzhah Airport in Alexandria.

The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa.

#### Threats to 'Official U.S. Presence' Received

NC0808074895 Cairo AL-AHRAM WEEKLY  
in English 3-9 Aug 95 p 1

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The US Embassy in Cairo received threats last week concerning "the official US presence in Egypt" and has advised its citizens to review their security precautions, an embassy spokesman told Inas Nur.

The spokesman said embassy rules forbid revealing the source of the threats or in what form they were received, but he said that "they made reference to the World Trade Centre bombing trial of Shaykh 'Umar 'Abd-al-Rahman in New York and the situation in Bosnia." The spokesman said the embassy was cooperating with the Egyptian security on this matter.

#### Musa on Mubarak-Zayid Meeting, Taba Talks, Bosnia

NC0708201395 Cairo MENA in Arabic  
1935 GMT 7 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Alexandria, 7 Aug (MENA)—Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa has described today's meeting between President Husni Mubarak and United Arab Emirates President Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nahayyan as part of the common Arab actions. He added that this meeting will deepen consultations and positively contribute to serving the inter-Arab action.

Speaking to reporters this evening, Musa said that during their closed meeting at al-Muntazah Palace the two presidents had discussed the situation in the Arab world, bilateral ties, and the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Regarding Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat's meeting with Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres in Taba this evening, Musa said: I was in touch with 'Arafat just before the meeting started. The results of this meeting will not be known before late tonight, he added, noting that Egyptian-Palestinian consultations will follow the meeting. Musa added that the results of the Taba meeting will determine what will be done next and what contacts need to be made, noting that President Mubarak is scheduled to meet with 'Arafat in Egypt tomorrow, Tuesday [8 August].

Asked about reports of a plan to divide Bosnia-Herzegovina between the Croats and the Serbs and give the Muslims a very small area of land, Musa said: I cannot comment on the rumors being circulated in this

regard, but I believe that this is part of the frightening developments in Bosnia.

In response to a question about Egypt's attempts to hold a joint meeting of the International and Islamic Contact Groups on Bosnia, Musa said that contacts are under way in this regard but they have not led to anything so far. He added that this is primarily an Egyptian proposal that was previously presented to German Foreign Minister Kinkel and French Prime Minister Juppe, when he was foreign minister. He noted that experts from the two groups had met; but Egypt has proposed that the two groups hold a meeting at the ministerial level and that this meeting be held urgently. However, he added, the International Contact Group does not seem to be ready for such a meeting at the present time, which widens the gap between what we and they believe in. Musa added: At any rate, Croatia's entry into the war has changed much of the equation. He stressed that anything that eases the criminal Serbian pressure on the Bosnian Muslims is positive.

Asked about prospects for inter-Arab reconciliation and the possibility of taking concrete steps in this regard in light of the Mubarak-Zayid meeting, Musa said that this meeting will positively contribute to serving common Arab action.

Concerning progress on the Syrian track, Musa said that there is nothing new in this regard.

#### **Minister al-Sharif Comments on Mubarak-Zayid Talks**

NC0708180795 Cairo MENA in Arabic  
1728 GMT 7 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Alexandria, 7 Aug (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak and Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the United Arab Emirates [UAE], resumed their talks this evening. Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif said that the talks between the two leaders dealt with topical Arab and Islamic issues within the framework of the regional and international developments. He said that the most important topic they discussed was the deterioration of the situation in Bosnia and coordination of the two fraternal countries' efforts to back the Bosnian people on the international, Islamic, and Arab levels.

Al-Sharif said that the talks focused on their common view of restoring Arab solidarity and using the positive initiatives in the Arab arena to put the Arab house in order in order to safeguard the Arab nation's interests on the international and regional levels and invigorate the Arab establishments politically, economically, and socially. He noted that the talks also touched on the latest developments in the peace process and the

ongoing contacts to enhance it. Al-Sharif noted that the two leaders will hold another session tomorrow morning to assess and bolster bilateral cooperation in all fields.

Al-Sharif pointed out that on the sidelines of the summit talks, the Egyptian and the UAE delegations discussed a number of issues relating to cooperation in the economic, technical, and information fields and the joint development and investment projects established by the UAE in Egypt in the fields of agriculture, infrastructure, land reclamation, and housing. [passage omitted]

#### **Musa Sends Message to Russia's Kozyrev on Bosnia** NC0708144395 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1325 GMT 7 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 7 Aug (MENA)—Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa has sent a message to Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev on developments in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Musa pointed out in his message that the Islamic Contact Group's decision not to abide by the arms embargo on Bosnia acts to consolidate the international peace plan and curb Serbian intransigence.

The foreign minister stressed that reports on plans to arm the Bosnian Serbs simply means greater Serbian intransigence in Bosnia, the perpetuation of the war, and the possibility of its scope expanding.

#### **Confessions by 'Terrorists' Implicate al-Turabi** NC0708133495 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1150 GMT 7 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 7 Aug (MENA)—The Supreme State Security Prosecution has charged the terrorists who came from Sudan and who were arrested recently on five counts: Forming a terrorist organization to destabilize the country, possessing arms and explosives, communicating with a foreign state to undermine the country's security, attempting to assassinate state figures, and attempting to blow up vital establishments.

AL-MASA' today says the investigation supervised by the attorney general has shown that Hasan al-Turabi, leader of the National Islamic Front in Khartoum, was behind the assassination attempt against President Husni Mubarak in Addis Ababa.

The paper says the five terrorists—Mustafa 'Abd-al-Hamid Mustafa, Rabi' 'Abd-al-Ghani Khalifah, 'Ali Qasim Sayf Salim, Muhammad 'Ali 'Ali al-Sharqawi, and Husni al-Sayyid Husayn—confessed to the prosecution that they were trained in the "al-Kamp and Kangu" camps in Khartoum together with Sharif 'Abd-al-Rahman Tawfiq al-Madani and Muhammad 'Abd-al-Radi Khalil, who were killed by the Ethiopian police,



and Husayn Ahmad 'Ali Shumayt, who escaped to Sudan and was hidden by al-Turabi in a training camp after the attempt, and 'Abd-al-Karim al-Nadi 'Abd-al-Akhir, who is under interrogation in Ethiopia.

AL-MASA' says the confessions revealed that the group that committed the sinful assassination attempt was trained by Ahmad Hasan 'Abd-al-Jalil and 'Isam Ahmad 'Abd-al-Jawad, who were killed in Aswan shortly before the attempt. They were helped in training by Islam al-'Umari and Ahmad Mustafa Nawawah, who are fugitives in Sudan. They trained them in the use of firearms, like the Kalashnikovs used in the assassination attempt, in detonations, in preparing the booby-trapped car that was placed in the way of the president's procession, and in using digital and telephone codes.

The paper adds that the five terrorists told the interrogators that Hasan al-Turabi formed organized gangs and provided them with accommodation facilities and training camps. These elements were assembled in Afghanistan and dispatched by land to Sudan, where they were trained in terrorist operations supervised by fugitive terrorists Mustafa Hasan Hamzah, Ahmad Mustafa Nawawah, and Islam al-'Umari.

The paper says the terrorists confessed that Hasan al-Turabi allocated \$50,000 for killing ministers and security commanders in Egypt and for blowing up the "al-Tahrir compound" in central Cairo and some embassies and banks. He pushed the five terrorists to implement this terrorist scheme to hit more victims.

The prosecution remanded the terrorists in custody for 15 days pending investigation. It placed their hideouts under observation and sent the apprehended weapons and explosives to the criminal laboratory for examination.

#### **Court Orders Release of 110 MB Members**

NC0708161895 Paris AFP in English  
1209 GMT 7 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Cairo, Aug 7 (AFP) — Prosecutors at Egypt's High Security Court ordered the release of 110 of 180 members of the Moslem Brotherhood (MB) arrested on July 28 on charges of seeking to overthrow the government, legal sources said Monday [7 August].

Security services have not yet implemented the decision, the sources said, adding that emergency laws in effect since 1981 allow the continued detention of prisoners considered a "danger to state security."

Most of the 180 were arrested at a scout camp near the Mediterranean coastal city of Alexandria in the largest sweep against the outlawed Brotherhood since President

Husni Mubarak came to power in 1981. Prosecutors accused the 70 who were not ordered released with undergoing martial arts training for "combat missions" and belonging to a secret organization aiming to topple the regime.

The Moslem Brotherhood, banned in 1954, has been tolerated since the mid 1970s when it said it had officially renounced violence in its bid to create an Islamic state in Egypt. But in early 1994 Mubarak accused the group of being at the source of Moslem militant groups waging a violent three-year campaign against security forces. Since then, dozens of Brothers have been arrested. The Brotherhood denies Mubarak's accusations and insists the police crackdown aims at stopping the group from participating in legislative elections planned for fall.

#### **Crew of Seized Dutch Ammunition Ship 'Missing'**

NC0708174595 Paris AFP in English  
1635 GMT 7 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Nicosia, Aug 7 (AFP) — The Dutch captain and five crewmen of a ship carrying ammunition to Kuwait are "missing" since being arrested by Egyptian officials who stopped the vessel on July 26, a representative of the ship owners here said Monday [7 August].

"We are extremely worried about them. We don't know where they are since being arrested. We consider them missing people," George Stavris told AFP.

The Dutch embassy in Cairo repeated on Sunday a request for information on captain Nanno Douma and expressed "concern" for his fate, a spokesman for the Dutch foreign ministry told AFP in The Hague.

Egyptian officials "promised a quick response", the spokesman said. But Stavris, the representative in Cyprus for the Honduran company which owns the Angeliki M, said: "Egypt has refused to give any information on them since the arrest. They are acting without any regard for law and regulation."

Cairo has given no official reason for stopping the ship at Port Said at the north mouth of the Suez Canal. The prosecutor general forbid all local and foreign media to "publish any item related to the current investigations being carried out in Port Said in connection to a case of state security."

Press blackouts are sometimes imposed on sensitive national security cases. "This is a very dark story. Egyptian officials seem terrified by the affair. No one in Egypt is allowed to talk about it, which is extremely worrying. Obviously the Egyptians are hiding something," Stavris said.

The ship bore a cargo of 136 tonnes of Bulgarian-made tank ammunition destined for Kuwait and 15 tonnes of "technical equipment for tanks" for the Egyptian Ministry of Defense, Stavris said. The ship and its cargo were "entirely legal and all documentation was properly done," he said.

Stavris said he asked Amnesty International in Egypt to look into the fate of Douma and the three Syrians, one Egyptian and one Indian from his crew arrested with him. The ship was sailing from the Bulgarian port of Burgas and stopped over at Limassol port in Cyprus for three days before heading for Port Said en route to Kuwait, he said.

Stavris said a representative from the Kuwaiti Defense Ministry came to Port Said to investigate after the ship was stopped.

"Kuwait is alarmed that it might lose its cargo to Egypt," he added, saying he was "in contact" with the Kuwaiti ministry.

### Libya

#### Government Warns U.S. Over Uranium Holdings

LD0708224295 Tripoli JANA in Arabic  
1615 GMT 7 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Tripoli, 7 Aug — The Great Jamahiriyyah's permanent delegate at the United Nations has called for the need to take urgent action to destroy 600 kg of enriched uranium which is ready to be used in nuclear weapons production. It was brought by the United States from Kazakhstan and stored in U.S. nuclear establishments in the state of Texas.

In a letter sent to the UN secretary general, the permanent delegate called for the need to inspect this dangerous material and warned about the negative consequences that might result from the operation, particularly in the absence of any guarantees against its use for military purposes and of any measures to prevent it from being passed on to a specific party.

The Great Jamahiriyyah's permanent delegate emphasized in his message that despite the fact that a long time had elapsed since a warning was first raised about this dangerous operation — which constitutes a violation of international treaties and an obstruction of the international efforts seeking to dispose of nuclear material — no measure had been taken so far to inspect it or to find out what had happened to it. He stressed the need for the destruction of the material under the supervision of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] and the UN Security Council, on the basis of its responsibility to preserve international peace and security.

He said that if America refused to cooperate in this matter and if the Security Council failed to make the American Government reveal the quantity of uranium and destroy it, in accordance with the required procedure, we believe that any government would have the right to obtain and store the amount of uranium that it required and break the monopoly of any state to import and keep that material. In that event the Security Council, the IAEA, or the United States would not have the right to protest against that.

#### Palestinians' Forced Departure Linked to Peace Agreement

NC0708190195 London MBC Television in Arabic  
1800 GMT 7 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The Palestinian ambassador to Algeria has said that the Libyan authorities have begun to assemble Palestinians in camps near the Egyptian border in preparation for expelling them. The move comes in response to the conclusion of the Palestinian-Israeli peace agreement.

#### 'Silent Crisis' Reported in Relations With Sudan

MM0808091895 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT  
in Arabic 5 Aug 95 pp 1, 4

[Report by Talhah Jibril: "Full Story of Armed Clashes in Benghazi and Darnah"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Rabat — Libyan-Sudanese relations are currently experiencing a silent crisis as a result of the effects of the recent Benghazi incidents, even though official Libyan sources have said that these incidents will never affect relations between the two countries. Informed sources have said that the status of current relations between the two countries is inconsistent with official statements. As for the cause of the silent crisis, it is the fact that the leader of the fundamentalist groups implicated in the Benghazi incidents had frequented Sudan. Some sources say that he fled the country to Sudanese territory across the desert after the recent confrontations.

Meanwhile, well-informed sources have revealed to AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT new details about the incidents. The sources said that the incidents started when a fundamentalist tried to seize a car from a government parking lot in the center of Benghazi. He was confronted by the guards, who beat him up badly. He was moved to one of the hospitals.

His colleagues feared that he might be interrogated by the security forces once he recovered, hence exposing all members of the group. So they attacked the hospital to move their wounded colleague from it. And indeed

they managed to move him to a villa in the al-Fuwayhat district in Banghazi. The villa had been used as a main base for fundamentalist groups, which stored arms and medical equipment on the bottom floor. They started to provide medical treatment for their injured colleague in this villa, which the security forces located later. They clashed with those inside and discovered that it contained a complete clinic inside. Members of the fundamentalist groups were killed in the clash. But the situation quickly developed into confrontations between other groups and security forces in Barqah province, where fundamentalists attacked a police station on the Darnah-Banghazi road. They also killed three of the Libyan leadership's guards and attacked other stations, but security forces managed to control the situation, arresting, according to some estimates, hundreds. They were also able to locate the residence of the group's leader, but he fled to Sudan across the desert before his house was stormed.

The sources pointed out that the group used to receive financial help through a bank account in an Egyptian bank. It became clear later that sums of money were deposited in this bank account by people from an Arab state.

Meanwhile, a Sudanese Government source has denied the existence of any coolness in Sudanese-Libyan relations as a result of the incidents that Banghazi witnessed recently. The source told AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that such reports are baseless and aimed at sabotaging the good relations between the two fraternal countries, that the integration projects between the two countries are proceeding satisfactorily, and that officials of the two countries exchange visits regularly to implement integration programs. The source pointed to the Libyan mediation efforts to contain the crisis between Sudan and Egypt. The source said that Libyan President Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi made telephone contacts with Khartoum and Cairo to suspend statements and prevent a media escalation. The source wondered: Would Libya have hastened to make such reconciliation efforts if relations had deteriorated?

**Al-Qadhafi Meets With Leaders of Al Marj Area**  
LD0508142695 Tripoli JANA in English  
1419 GMT 5 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Al Marj, Hannibal [August] 5, JAMAHIRYA NEWS AGENCY — Asserting their role in implementing the tasks entrusted to them by the masses, fulfilling their responsibilities in leading the masses and harnessing all expertise to lay down the necessary plans to transfer their areas from backwardness to progress, the leader of the revolution [Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi] met with the popular leadership and experts

of Al Marj area who reasserted as they met with their leader, symbol of dignity and pride, their total commitment to the revolution's ideas and the fulfilment of their tasks in enhancing the victory of freedom and advancement process made by the revolution on each inch of this kind land.

Also the masses reaffirmed their firm determination to mobilize all the resources of the area and bring together its experts to draw up development plans for their area and transfer it from backwardness to progress.

The leader of the revolution addressed the popular masses and experts in the area of Al Marj highlighting their responsibilities in leading the area in the process of transfer from backwardness to progress and to be reassured about the work of the popular leadership and experts and instigating them to speed up the execution of the plans necessary for the success of this action which may lead to a prosperous future for their area.

The popular leadership in the area of Al Marj made a speech welcoming the leader of the revolution reaffirming their eternal unity and cohesion with the great Al Fateh revolution and its leader and their firm determination to mobilize all resources and self help for the realisation of self-sufficiency. The popular leadership declared the masses defiance of the tyranny of the despots, enemies of freedom and progress and they will not [be] dissuaded by the embargo in entrenching their people's authority.

The popular leadership presented gifts to the leader of the revolution including a copy of the holy Koran and locally produced leather goods.

During this meeting, poems were read expressing pride and loyalty to the maker of loyalty, victories and glories.

The popular leadership presented to the leader a pledge of loyalty reiterating their constant adherence to the principles and objectives of the great Al Fateh revolution and guided by the dicta of the Green Book and the greater green charter of human rights for the realisation of prosperity and happiness of all mankind.

Also the popular leadership and the association of experts in the area of Al Marj issued a statement during this meeting declaring their determination to defy the plots of the spiteful western crusaders against Arabs and Islam and confront their plans aimed at the destruction of the whole Arab nation.



### **Sudan**

#### **Al-Bashir Cites Egyptian 'Interference' in Affairs**

*EA0808100795 Omdurman Republic of Sudan Radio Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 7 Aug 95*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Lieutenant General 'Umar al-Bashir, the president of the Republic, has given details of the attempts by the Egyptian regime to interfere in the internal affairs of the country just after the beginning of the National Salvation Revolution.

He stated that the Cairo regime asked, through the Egyptian consul in Khartoum, for the appointment of an Egyptian political counselor in the former Revolution Command Council [RCC]. He added that during the visit undertaken by Mr. Faysal Abu-Salih, member of the RCC, to Egypt at the beginning of the revolution, the Egyptian regime gave him a list of eight people appointed by the Egyptian Government to negotiate with the rebel Garang. Five of them were to represent the Sudanese Government and the other three were to represent Egyptian interests.

Lt. Gen. al-Bashir confirmed that the former RCC strongly rejected this behavior, saw it as a flagrant intervention in the internal affairs of the country and [said] that the ruling regime of Sudan under the salvation era had the power to exercise its independent will and political decisions.

In an interview with the newspaper AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT the president of the Republic added that the Cairo regime had continued its interference in the country's affairs as it protested against his visit at the beginning of the revolution to Kenya, claiming that it was not informed of the visit in advance nor of its outcome — as if Sudan were an Egyptian province and governed by Egypt. [passage omitted]

#### **Criticizes Egypt, Opposition**

*EA0708193395 Omdurman Republic of Sudan Radio Network in Arabic 0430 GMT 7 Aug 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Lieutenant General 'Umar al-Bashir, the president of the Republic, has said that Egyptian policy toward Sudan is characterized by conventionalism, as Egypt is unable to understand what is really going on in the country following the National Salvation Revolution and the establishment of a regime with an independent will.

His excellency reviewed, in an interview with the newspaper AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT, the different forms of the Egyptian regime's interference in Sudan's internal affairs. He said that the Egyptian regime's authorities had protested against the application of Islamic law in Sudan, and then adopted a story of lies about terrorism

in Sudan, which it gave currency, politically, and in its news media. This confirms that the Egyptian regime is working against Sudan's Islamic orientation. Lt. Gen. 'Umar al-Bashir said that the ruling regime in Cairo wants to subordinate Sudan so that it is at its beck and call.

With regard to the so-called opposition, his excellency said that there were many great dissimilarities in relation to the signatures of al-Mirghani and Mubarak al-Fadil on the Asmara document. [sentence as heard] The document was drawn up by communists and rebels, as it stresses the separation of religion and state, as well as the secession of the south, the Ingessana and Byei areas from the one united Sudan.

#### **Official Discusses Borders, Egypt Massing Troops**

*EA0808104295 Omdurman Republic of Sudan Radio Network in Arabic 0430 GMT 8 Aug 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Brigadier Ahmad al-Husayn, the director of the borders department at the Interior Ministry, has said that the question of borders between Sudan and Egypt will always be subject to international agreements and decisions issued by the UN. He referred to the Egyptian authorities' aggression against the Hala'ib triangle, describing it as unjust and unwarranted.

He said in a statement to the newspaper AL-INQADH AL-WATANI, published this morning, that Sudan will continue to maintain its right to the triangle, which is guaranteed by international agreements and confirmed by documents and instruments. He said that there is a military escalation by the Egyptian regime, which is massing more of its troops. He reiterated Sudan's rejection of this behavior, stressing that it will not help in solving the problem.

#### **Minister Discusses New Visa Regulations**

*EA0708201095 Omdurman Republic of Sudan Radio Network in Arabic 1300 GMT 7 Aug 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Brigadier Dr. al-Tayyib Ibrahim Muhammad Khayr, the minister of the interior, has told our correspondent that Sudan will always be the land of all Arabs, as a matter of general and basic principle. He said that visas would be easily obtainable in Arab states, and movement between those states and Sudan will also be easy.

He added that the ministry's decision whereby aliens arriving in Sudan must obtain prior entry visas with effect from tomorrow comes in response to some states linked with us by agreements, such as Syria, Libya, and Iraq. [sentence as heard] He said that the decision was more of a review than an abandonment of previous visa



regulations, and came after a study of the positive and negative aspects of its application. He clarified that the Passports and Immigration Act makes it necessary to have a prior visa. The act also gives the interior minister jurisdiction to exempt the nationals of any state.

The minister also dealt with the criminal status of aliens, highlighting the continuing decline in the average crime rate. He confirmed that aliens in the country are under full control.

**Kuwait****Defense Minister on GCC Force, U.S. Bases**

*LD0808091795 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic  
0739 GMT 8 Aug 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Kuwait, 8 Aug (KUNA) — In a press interview published here today, Kuwaiti Defense Minister Shaykh Ahmad al-Hamad al-Jabir al-Sabah stated that the GCC [Gulf Cooperation Council] countries have not failed in establishing a defense deterrent force: "On the contrary, the GCC countries have passed this stage, and that force exists."

In his interview with Kuwaiti AL-ANBA, he said there is a plan to increase this force "and hence it will be the strong arm in defending all the GCC countries."

Shaykh Hamud answered to the statement that the Kuwaiti army retreated on 2 August 1990 when the Iraqi forces invaded Kuwait, saying: "The Kuwaiti army did not retreat on 2 August, and you know the events that took place on 31 July and 1 August and the guarantees that existed then."

On the issue of Kuwaitizing the Kuwaiti army, he emphasized: "There are great efforts to make the Kuwaiti army 100 percent Kuwaiti by the beginning of the next century," particularly as "there is a plan to get Kuwaiti youth, as much as possible, to work within the ranks of the army."

About the demands of some people to turn Kuwait into a U.S. military base and abolish the Kuwaiti army, he said: "We must not forget that the political changes and developments vary from one day to the next, and this is what we can see in the international arena now."

He refuted the rumors that Faylakah Island has been turned into a military base, pointing out that "in the extreme cases, we can exploit all islands."

The Kuwaiti minister pointed out that a natural reserve will be established in Sabiriyah region [in northern Kuwait near the Iraqi border] on an area of 400 square kilometers and will be declared a military zone, and that it will be the first of five reserves to be established during the coming period. He explained that this reserve is aimed at "killing two birds with one stone:" On the one hand it will be "a step toward protecting the environment, and on the other hand, it will be a positive step for Kuwaiti military strategy."

**Official Criticizes Arab Stances Toward Iraq**

*LD0708153395 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic  
1332 GMT 7 Aug 95*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] In press statements published in Amman today Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir,

the Kuwaiti first deputy prime minister and foreign minister, expressed his astonishment and regret that some people could not bring themselves to condemn the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait in 1990 and demand that the Iraqi regime implement all the UN Security Council resolutions relevant to the liberation war of Kuwait. Without mentioning anyone or any state by name he said that the stances at some of the meetings of the Arab League following the occupation — whether at foreign ministers' level or at summit level — lacked credibility and contributed to support for the aggressor and increased his hostility and haughtiness.

In an interview with the Amman weekly AL-HADATH, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad said no doubt it is regrettable that some continue even now on insisting on their attitude by offering flimsy pretexts without being able to condemn the aggression, and demand that the Iraqi Government implement the UN Security Council [resolutions] relevant to Iraq's aggression against the State of Kuwait. [passage omitted]

The Kuwaiti first deputy prime minister and foreign minister expressed his country's candid wishes that the Arab states should demand that Iraq implement all the resolutions — most important of which is the issue of returning the prisoners and properties — and to totally comply with the rest of the resolutions. [passage omitted]

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad welcomed any initiative that will contribute to the efforts being made by the International Committee of the Red Cross in dealing with the issue of the Kuwaiti prisoners in Iraqi jails, and emphasized that the prisoners' issue has human dimensions and "we cannot be lax on this issue." He added that the Arab League has used its good offices in this regard and that King Hassan II of Morocco played a major humane role in this connection. [passage omitted]

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad expressed his sympathy with the Iraqi people who are suffering from the international sanctions imposed on the Iraqi regime "in which we have no confidence at all." The Kuwaiti first deputy prime minister and foreign minister placed on the Iraqi Government the responsibility of this suffering in totally rejecting the sale of oil to the value of \$1 billion every three months. [passage omitted]

Regarding the treatment of Jordanians and Palestinians who are in Kuwait, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad said they were enjoying total freedom and that a large number of them had left the country of their own free will during the occupation, either because they feared or rejected the occupation and not because the Kuwaiti authorities expelled any of them. He said that there were more than

40,000 Jordanians and Palestinians in Kuwait working side by side with their Kuwaiti brothers.

#### **Amir Receives Message From Russian President**

*LD0808094395 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic  
0908 GMT 8 Aug 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Kuwait, 8 Aug (KUNA) — The charge d'affaires of the Russian Federation to Kuwait conferred today with the amir, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah.

An official statement said that the Russian charge d'affaires handed the amir a message from the Russian president, Boris Yeltsin.

The statement did not refer to the contents of the message.

### **Qatar**

#### **Amir Returns Home From Saudi Visit**

*JN0708113795 Doha Radio Qatar in Arabic  
0530 GMT 7 Aug 95*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] His Highness Shaykh Hamad Bin-Khalifah Al Thani, the beloved amir of the country, returned home from Jeddah at 2000 yesterday after a fraternal one-day visit to the sisterly Kingdom of Saudi Arabia at the invitation King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, custodian of the two holy mosques. [passage omitted]

His Highness Shaykh Hamad Bin-Khalifah Al Thani sent a cable to his brother the custodian of the two holy mosques at the conclusion of his visit to sisterly Saudi Arabia, expressing appreciation and gratitude for the warm welcome and hospitality accorded to him and his delegation, which reflects the strong and distinguished brotherly ties between the Qatari and Saudi people. His highness expressed his eagerness to continue to strengthen bilateral relations in the interest of the two sisterly countries. He expressed his confidence that the visit, which witnessed constructive talks characterized by a spirit of true brotherhood and amity, will fruitfully reflect on the two peoples as well as the other Gulf states. [passage omitted]

### **Saudi Arabia**

#### **King Fahd Discusses Ending 'Border Annoyances'**

*LD0708113895 Kuwait Radio Kuwait in Arabic  
1000 GMT 7 Aug 95*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, custodian of the two holy mosques, has said that the security of Kuwait is part and parcel of the security of Saudi Arabia.

In an interview with Ahmad al-Jarallah, chief editor of the AL-SIYASAH newspaper, which was published today, he said that he was the first one to rejoice following the return of Kuwait to its people. [passage omitted]

In the interview, the custodian of the two holy mosques discussed the new ministerial formation in Saudi Arabia. He said that it came at an opportune time. These highly qualified people who assumed ministerial portfolios were selected alongside the competencies of the Consultative Council, which is composed of selected important human resources, he stated. He added that the performance of the new cabinet will be special because of the competence of its members and because the cabinet has been chosen to give a better performance in the interests of the Saudi citizen. [passage omitted]

The custodian of the two holy mosques pointed to what he described as border annoyances, and said: We will not go the forthcoming Gulf Cooperation Council Summit in the fraternal Sultanate of Oman before putting an end to those annoyances.

#### **Cabinet Change Said To Show Extent of Economic Crisis**

*MM0708113595 London AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI  
in Arabic 4 Aug 95 p 1*

[Unattributed report: "The New Saudi Cabinet Reshuffle Constitutes an Admission of the Enormity of the Economic Crisis. Thirty-six Princes at the Foreign Ministry Awaiting Assignment to Ambassadorial Posts Abroad"]

[FBIS Translated Text] London — The large-scale ministerial changes carried out by Saudi monarch King Fahd Bin 'Abd-al-'Aziz are still the main topic of discussion in political circles both inside and outside the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. However, many observers do not expect that the ministerial changes will bring about any real changes in the Kingdom's oil and financial policies.

According to a reliable Saudi source, the removal of the ministers of finance and petroleum was tantamount to an open admission of the gravity of the economic crisis in the country and an attempt to find solutions to it. This is because the Kingdom's economy is based on finance and oil. However, it is unlikely that the changes will bring about major steps within this framework because the country's oil policy is formulated by the king himself in his capacity as president of the Higher Council for Petroleum. As to the new minister of finance, he did not accomplish any great achievements when he held the portfolio of minister of commerce. The fact that he was kept in the government, let alone his

assignment with the portfolio of the ministry of finance, has come as a surprise to many people.

All eyes are being focused at present on the under-secretaryships vacated in some of the ministries by the appointment of those who used to occupy them to ministerial posts, such as the post of the under-secretary of the Ministry of Information, which has become vacant following the promotion of Dr. Fu'ad Farsi to the rank of minister. The same thing applies to the post of under-secretary of the Ministry of Communications, which was occupied by Nasir Bin Mohammed al-Sallum for over 20 years before he was promoted to the rank of minister in the new cabinet.

Many observers agree that most of the new ministers are people with expertise, high qualifications, and clean hands. But the problems they could be facing these days, due to the shortage of cash and the cuts in the budgets of ministries, might impede their tasks.

It was noteworthy that the main ministries of sovereignty, such as the interior, defense, and foreign affairs, have not been affected by the ministerial changes because they are occupied by members of the ruling family.

Britain's *FINANCIAL TIMES* said yesterday that the change reflects the Saudi monarch's determination to proceed with the implementation of the constitutional pledges he has made, though he used to favor ministers continuing in their posts in the past. Furthermore, he is preparing the ground for the implementation of a policy of privatization and the selling of public sector institutions in an attempt to tackle the problem of the growing budget deficit.

The observers believe the new minister of petroleum, al-Nu'aymi, will have his first test next November, when OPEC will be holding its meeting to fix a new ceiling for production and allocate quotas. However, his biggest test will be in a year's time at the latest, when the embargo on the Iraqi oil exports is scheduled to be lifted.

While the appointment of Prince 'Abd-al-'Aziz Bin Salman as under-secretary at the Ministry of Petroleum has aroused the fears of many Saudis that this might mark the beginning of a stampede by sons of the Saudi ruling family to occupy more principal posts, the appointment of Prince Mohammed Bin Nawwaf Bin 'Abd-al-'Aziz as ambassador to Rome might mark the beginning of the appointment of Saudi Princes to diplomatic posts abroad.

A former Saudi diplomat has told *AL-QUDS AL-'ARABI* that if this phenomenon were to grow, it will have serious consequences. For at present there are over 36 Princes at the Foreign Ministry and all of them have

their sights set on ambassadorial posts abroad. Prince Bandar Bin Sultan is the only prince to occupy an ambassadorial post in 30 years. The only other prince who preceded him in occupying an ambassadorial post was Prince Talal Bin 'Abd-al-'Aziz, who was appointed ambassador to Paris during the reign of the late king.

The appointment of 'Ali al-Sha'ir as adviser at the Royal Court, following his removal from the Ministry Of Information, has raised a great many questions. However, there is agreement that this appointment does not mean his assignment to any important role, because there are more than 10 advisers occupying the same rank as him, such as 'Ali Bin Muslim, Nasir al-Shadri, Rashid Bin Khanin, 'Abd-al-Rahman al-Marzuqi, 'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Shaykh, and 'Abd-al- Wahhab 'Abd-al-Wasi'. The post of first adviser, which ranks above that of a minister, is occupied by two people only: Prince 'Abd-al- 'Aziz Bin Fahd and Ibrahim al-'Anqari.

#### **More on King Fahd Interview on Cabinet Changes** *LD0708142495 Riyadh SPA in English* *1308 GMT 7 Aug 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kuwait, Aug 7, SPA — Custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, has stated that the new cabinet reshuffle came at the time fixed by recent administrative regulations and stressed that efficient officials have been selected to occupy ministerial positions to add to the efficiency of the Consultative Council members.

In an interview with Kuwaiti Arabic language newspaper *AL-SIYASAH* published on Monday, King Fahd said the outgoing ministers were experienced and efficient persons who performed their duties so well for such a long time that one thought they would be hard to replace, but the Kingdom is full of remarkably efficient and trustworthy cadres. He said he reviewed numerous names of efficient officials before selecting the new ministers and confirmed that the Saudi society is full of capable men, which is a source of pleasure. He said he also followed up all the comments about the new cabinet reshuffle and found consensus on the fact that new cabinet is young one comprising highly-educated ministers which will guarantee a good performance.

Asked why GCC [Gulf Cooperation Council] states followed the cabinet reshuffle so closely, King Fahd said the Kingdom has special importance on the political and economic levels both to the GCC states and other parties. He added that brothers in GCC states realize that any progress in Saudi Arabia represents progress for all of them and any harm that befalls the Kingdom would affect them as well, which is the whole concept behind the formation of the Gulf Cooperation Council. He said



ties binding GCC states have always been very strong and that the Kingdom has always stressed that GCC citizens would be welcome if they decided to start any economic activities in Saudi Arabia, whether through existing agreements or our own flexibility.

Asked what the new young cabinet meant, King Fahd said it simply means that there is a desire to reach the highest possible level of performance to realize the best interests of citizens. He added that it also means that the Saudi society has many efficient persons and that the educational policies are wise and fruitful. He said the young cadres in cabinet will respond to the requirements of this stage and will exert their utmost for the service of their country. Asked if the new government was a surprise even to people in Saudi Arabia, King Fahd said the new cabinet was formed on time because the system says changes must be made every four years.

Asked about the message that he wished to convey to GCC states through the cabinet reshuffle, he said the new reshuffle might give the impression that renewal could help improve the performance or create new, and maybe better, ideas. He added that there was no specific message to convey through the reshuffle, except that the Saudi system of government requires changes to be made every four years.

Asked why the world press has stopped talking about financial crises in Saudi Arabia, the monarch said international relations are based on mutual interests and the important thing is to know where our interests lie. He explained that there was a financial crisis in the wake of the Gulf War and after the decline of oil prices, but it was dealt with inside the Saudi home. He said international experts and banks came to the Kingdom to inspect the situation following the exaggerated media campaign but they left Saudi Arabia feeling more confident of the Saudi economy. He said the crisis was dealt with through the national economy without resorting to foreign loans. Moreover the Kingdom paid back its foreign debts on time. He said due to this remedy the new budget might hardly have any deficit. He said the Kingdom shouldered the consequences of the measures taken to cut the deficit and that they were not as hard as the media made them up to be.

Asked about the future of oil prices, King Fahd said he thought the international consumption of oil will increase and the urban development will be boosted which requires more oil, in addition to the fact that some small producing areas might not be able to keep up their levels of production in the future. King Fahd expressed belief that Gulf oil prices will go up and that the demand for it will remain high, and called on GCC states

and other countries with large oil reserves to coordinate their stances to serve their mutual interests.

Asked if he still supported the issue of privatization, he said he still supports it and stressed that the state would not invite Saudi or even Gulf investors to participate in any ventures unless it was certain of their profitability. He said Saudi Arabia wanted to reach the level of the so-called shareholder-consumer economy, which means for instance that the shareholder in the Saudi airlines would also be the consumer of its services. He stressed that profitable service projects would be available to Saudi citizens and that the government would continue to boost the confidence of such ventures.

Asked how the development of the Saudi airlines would be financed, King Fahd said many international finance houses have approached the Kingdom to help finance the \$7 billion project, and that some Saudi financial houses have also expressed readiness to finance the deal. He added that the government decided that local finance would be better, especially since the cost would be paid on an instalment basis. He said the Saudi private sector was an important one and that it should benefit from this deal.

King Fahd said Saudi money was stable inside the Kingdom and that Saudi banks even have funds from outside the Saudi private sector as a result of the confidence of depositors in the state's ability to meet fulfil its commitments.

Asked about Saudi industries, King Fahd said industry was one of the most important aspects of Saudi economy and pointed out that it has grown steadily and remarkably. He added that Saudi industry opens new international markets and expands consistently.

He said the state's policies were wise in this regard and that local and international industrialists have full confidence in the Saudi industries. He said marketing operations were proceeding according to calculating methods and with encouragement from the state. He stressed that the state does not impose taxes on industry and that industrial revenues constitute an important part of the gross national product.

Asked about his memories about the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, the monarch said he was the first person to feel happy for the return of Kuwaitis to their homeland. He recalled that on the first day of the invasion he told world leaders "we are with Kuwait until its liberation" and that the U.S. President said he was waiting to hear King Fahd say this. He said Saddam though he could neutralize Saudi Arabia by talking about dividing the spoils, and pointed out that he laughed at such naivety,

since the security and sovereignty of Kuwait is the security and sovereignty of Saudi Arabia.

He said King 'Abd-al-'Aziz's sons and the Saudi people do not forget the stances of the Kuwaiti people, and stressed that "we did not wish to return the favour on such a painful occasion." [as received]

Asked about his optimism towards resolving all border disputes among GCC states before the upcoming Muscat summit, he said this wish had been granted and it seems we will end all border problems before we head for the summit. He explained that only the issue of borders between Qatar and Bahrain remains unresolved, but stressed that he was optimistic that it would be solved before the Muscat summit.

Asked about restoring Arab solidarity, King Fahd said the Arab nation needs to close its ranks and to have good intentions. He said Iraq drove a wedge in inter-Arab relations by invading Kuwait and pointed out that Arabs need some time to restore their solidarity.

Responding to a question about what the Arab Gulf economy could do collectively, he said the private and public sectors in the Gulf must believe in investment in their own countries and then linking these economies on the basis of interests would be useful to all sides. He said the money that finds no opportunity for investment in its own country would find it in other GCC states, and stressed that transferring money outside the GCC bloc under the claim of looking for investment opportunities implies that GCC states are not economically linked. He said the world needs low-cost industries and these could not be established in faraway areas.

Asked about the accomplishment of the Shura Council, King Fahd said it plays an important role in Saudi political life and stressed that its consultative role is respected and appreciated because it gives a better view to the decision-makers. He added that regional councils have managed to end the central decision-making process, because it provides region governors with a comprehensive view of the situation and therefore can reach better decisions.

#### **Opposition Figure al-Mas'ari Views Cabinet Reshuffle**

NC0708171695 Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 5 Aug 95  
p 13

[FBIS Translated Text] London, AL-SAFIR—Muhammad al-Mas'ari, spokesman for the Saudi opposition "Committee for the Defense of the Legitimate Rights, who is living in London, has said that the recent cabinet reshuffle in Saudi Arabia involved a large number of ministers but did not touch substantive

issues. He noted that the Al Sa'ud princes continue their domination and the factions involved in the power struggle that favor Crown Prince 'Abdallah have stayed in power.

In a statement to AL-SAFIR, al-Mas'ari said that by taking this step the Al Sa'ud clan wants to show that they are capable of effecting a change and that the former government stayed in power for 20 years only because there was no need for a change, even though they were able to reshuffle the cabinet.

Al-Mas'ari believes that perhaps the reshuffle has two important purposes: First, covering up scandals and corruption and; second, to reassure the people of Hejaz that the Al Sa'ud clan is their protector from the Najd fundamentalists. He added that the Al Sa'ud clan also wants to let the West know that they are serious about making reforms. They also want to convey this to the man in the street and to everyone who is waiting for change. He noted that the cabinet reshuffle is part of a major campaign of changes and replacements in the universities and other posts to divert attention from criticism leveled at the regime's financial and domestic policies. They want to show that they are capable of moving, acting, and changing.

Discussing the relieved ministers, al-Mas'ari pointed out that the most important change was the removal of Finance Minister Muhammad Abu-al-Khayl. He noted that Abu-al-Khayl did not expect to be removed, in view of his "favors" for the Al Sa'ud clan—covering up all their financial deals, excesses, financial tricks and subterfuges in the recent past. He said that Abu-al-Khayl is a capable and intelligent man and described him as like a computer due to his keen ability to memorize figures and his familiarity with all the functions of his ministry. The princes and influential people have managed to peddle numerous issues through his ministry. Al-Mas'ari said that the Al Saud clan replaced Abu-al-Khayl in order to keep him from following up on financial transactions, to hold him responsible for the failed financial policy, and to cover up scandals and excesses.

Al-Mas'ari said that the new Finance Minister Sulayman al-Salim knows nothing of finance and lacks Abu-al-Khayl's experience. Thus, the Al Sa'ud clan members and the directors can do what they want and directly run the most important ministry—the ministry of banks, wealth and the monetary establishment, that is the Central Bank, and control the statistics and most computers data. Despite the good rapport Abu-al-Khayl had with the Americans, King Fahd and the Al Sa'ud princes had to replace him due to his self-assertion.

Al-Mas'ari added that it can be said that appointing al-Salim to this post preserves the power of Prince Sultan, Prince Salman, and the whole al-Sudayri clan in the Finance Ministry, whereas the Al 'Abdallah clan and the Al al-Faysal clan remain outside the ministry. The only time the Finance Ministry was in honest hands was when it was run by prince Musa'id Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, who belongs to the Al al-Faysal family. He held the reins of the ministry and kept it free of princes and others. Now the Finance Ministry is in the hands of King Fahd and the al-Sudayri clan. Finance Minister al-Salim is incapable and has no personality or ability.

Al-Mas'ari said that the second most important change involved the Petroleum Ministry with the removal of Hisham al-Nazir and the appointment of 'Ali Ibrahim al-Nu'aymi. He said that al-Nu'aymi has always worked in the energy field and is the top figure in ARAMCO. He has been and will continue to be pro-American. While Hisham al-Nazir had his own views, al-Nu'aymi will enable the Americans to have direct domination. King Fahd exerts total control over the oil sector. Even though al-Nu'aymi is an engineer and has experience, he will have limited powers and effectiveness because the oil sector is controlled by King Fahd, who also chairs the Higher Petroleum Council.

#### King Fahd Chairs Council of Ministers Session

LD0708190195 Riyadh SPA in Arabic  
1720 GMT 7 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Jeddah, 7 Aug — King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, custodian of the two holy mosques, presided over a session of the Council of Ministers held this afternoon at the al-Salam palace in Jeddah.

After the meeting, Dr. Fu'ad Bin 'Abd-al-Salam al-Farisi, minister of information, said in a statement to SPA:

Members of the government were honored — since the illustrious order of the exalted king to form the new cabinet — by listening to a fatherly and comprehensive speech by the custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd Bin-'Abd al-'Aziz. [passage omitted]

King Fahd Bin 'Abd al-'Aziz said: "Confidence in the new ministers who are present at the first cabinet meeting is boundless. We wish them all the success. It is certain that success will be yours, God willing. There is no doubt that the homeland is fortunate to have an elite of its sons."

King Fahd Bin 'Abd al-'Aziz added: "We actually need to develop our systems and carry out more studies in

this direction, while we quietly try to keep the interest of the citizen uppermost." [passage omitted]

The minister of information also said that the king reviewed with members of the government the most prominent developments at all levels, particularly the areas of tension explaining to them the efforts of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, which are aimed at realizing security and stability and championing the cause of the oppressed in all regions of the globe. [passage omitted]

The king then explained to the government ministers the nature of the message he received from the Sultan Qabus Bin-Sa'id, the sultan of Oman, which he received two days ago. It was part of the consultations and exchange of views between the king and their majesties and emirs in the GCC [Gulf Cooperation Council] for the benefit of relations between the two countries, the GCC states, the Arab and the Islamic nation. [passage omitted]

#### General Heads Delegation to Yemen for Border Talks

LD0708124295 Riyadh Saudi Arabian Kingdom Radio Network in Arabic 1130 GMT 7 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Staff General Muhammad Bin-Salah al-Hammad, chief of the general staff, and the delegation accompanying him left Riyadh air base today for Sanaa, to lead the Kingdom's delegation to a meeting of the Saudi and Yemeni military committees. The meeting is being held to enable some issues relating to the border between the two countries to be discussed.

This meeting will be the fourth one at the military level.

#### Yemeni Minister Calls For 'Emergency' OIC Meeting

JN0708201395 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 7 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] In his speech in the week of solidarity with the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina early last week, President Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih called for an emergency meeting of the foreign ministers of Islamic states. Pursuant to this call, brother Deputy Foreign Minister 'Abduh 'Ali 'Abd-al-Rahman, who arrived in Saudi Arabia today, delivered a message from Dr. 'Abd-al-Karim al-Iryani, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, to the secretary general of the Organization of Islamic Conference [OIC]. The message includes an invitation to hold an emergency meeting of the foreign ministers of Islamic states in Sanaa to support the people of Bosnia—Herzegovina. The brother deputy foreign minister handed the message to brother 'Uthman (Nadhir) 'Uthman, OIC assistant secretary general, during his meeting with him today.

The meeting was attended by Dr. Muhammad Ahmad (?al-Qubab), Yemeni ambassador to Saudi Arabia and permanent representative to the OIC, and brother [name indistinct], plenipotentiary minister at the Foreign Ministry.

### **Yemen**

#### **Saudi, Yemeni Joint Committee To Discuss Border Issues**

##### **Saudi Delegation Arrives**

*JN0708152095 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 7 Aug 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] The Saudi side to the Yemeni-Saudi Joint Committee, led by Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Muhammad Salih al-Hammad, arrived in Sanaa today.

Al-Hammad will lead his country's delegation to the meetings of the fourth round of the joint military committee between the two fraternal countries due to begin in Sanaa today.

He was received by Staff Brigadier General 'Abdallah 'Ali 'Ulaywah, chief of staff and head of our country's

side to the committee; members of the committee; and brother 'Ali Muhammad al-Qutaybi, ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in Sanaa.

##### **Two Meetings Held**

*JN0708195695 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 7 Aug 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] The Joint Yemeni-Saudi Military Committee has held a round of talks in Sanaa under the chairmanship of Staff Brigadier General 'Abdallah 'Ali 'Ulaywah, chief of staff, and Staff General Muhammad Bin-Salih al-Hammad, Saudi chief of staff.

The committee discussed many issues and reviewed the topics on its agenda concerning the work of the committee in implementation of the memorandum of understanding signed between our country and sisterly Saudi Arabia.

The committee also held another round of talks this evening during which it resumed discussion of topics on its agenda.

The Joint Yemeni-Saudi Military Committee will resume its meetings to complete discussions of issues related to its work.



**Saddam Commemorates 'Great Victory' Over Iran**  
*JN0808102095 Baghdad Iraq Television Network*  
*in Arabic 0705 GMT 8 Aug 95*

[Speech by President Saddam Husayn on the seventh anniversary of the end of the eight-year Iran-Iraq war; place and date not given—live or recorded]

[FBIS Translated Text] In the name of God the merciful, the compassionate.

O great people, O brave men of our valiant Armed Forces, O masses of our glorious Arab nation, O mujahidin and strugglers everywhere, peace be upon you.

On the morning of 4 September 1980, while our great people were taking their known firm steps on the path of entrenching the course and principles of their revolution, carrying out measures according to its theories, and making achievements along its course, Iran launched its aggression on Iraq and the confrontation began.

When that confrontation began, our people included in their ranks illiterates who were influenced to some degree by old customs, traditions, and ideas. But they also included thinkers, reformers, and those who lived according to the standards of the time with all its profound and civilized meanings. In short, our people included within their ranks the nuclear scientist, the peasant who plies the old plow, and the carrier of the hoe and sickle.

On the level of our women and great ladies, our people included in their ranks the doctor, the engineer, the university professor of electronics, but also the illiterate woman who believes that by tying her head with a green cloth blessed by the local village darvish or sayyid she would dispel all evils, remove the pain in her joints, and cure her headache.

We faced the task of creating our glorious present right from the start with this great people, not others; and with all the people, not just some of them. Everyone, whatever his position was, observed real discipline, not disorganized spontaneity which would have led to lack of concentration and specialization.

We also realized for a long time that what was required of us was to build a modern edifice and to revive an ancient, renewable civilization with enlightened and faithful minds and powerful and effective hands, not all of which were educated and cultured. What was required of us was to build a modern edifice, even if its great birth had to be achieved with the help of those who still lived with the mentality and behavior of another age. What was required, in particular, was that the new modern edifice would be born with all its great modern

meanings and trends based on both past heritage and the present. It would come from the old age and the new age; from people who, despite their good nature, still lived with the mentality of the old generation with all its erroneous standards, thinking, and behavior, and people who live in the present time and draw the picture of the future or the general outlines of its correct beginnings with all its bright spots, meanings, and requirements.

Thus, we tried to incorporate the capabilities, ambitions, and ideas of the atomic scientist and the plier of the hoe in our behavior and expressions and in our acts and theories in politics, economy, sociology, and psychology so that the great edifice that is new Iraq would be born with a bright present and future horizons which are wide open with no restrictions or limitations hampering the forward movement toward great deeds and accomplishments.

The suffering was great when we faced the Iranian aggression in a fierce war. Some people had thought that the Iranians would be able to attract to their ranks, or at least exclude from our ranks, the illiterate people; that is, those other than the educated, scientists, and thinkers. Because the Iranians depended on charlatancy, while we depended on truth; they depended on vagueness and confusion, while we depended on clarity; they depended on fantasy, while we depended on rationality; they depended on the outward appearances and formalities of religion, while we depended on the path which constituted the core of all religions: justice, equitability, right, and truth.

However, our great people had pondered on the basis of their historical heritage and behaved in a correct manner which showed faith in God, their cause, sanctities, and the justice of their stand.

Our great people understood their cause and the fair rationale behind it by intuition before putting them to proper reasoning and philosophical thinking. Our people were aware of the proper direction of their cause, and also of the proper options to uphold it, chief among which was confronting Iran's ambitions and expansionist aggressive drive, as manifested in the appropriate answers their consciences provided to the situation even before their mental faculties were used to make the required judgment. This vindicated our great party's theory that nations and peoples understand and comprehend their causes not through a philosophical judgment regarding the soundness and impeccability of the stand under consideration, but through their patriotism and living consciences; through the accumulation of life experiences; through drawing from a profound civilization, its landmarks, and its character; and also through the use of the acceptable concrete standards, laws, and re-

quirements of the age. This is to be attributed to their scrupulous spontaneity.

Some reasonable persons were worried that the uneducated and unschooled would not properly differentiate between our enemies' real purposes and their declared positions; between cover and essence; between the abyss of the lowest level, which lent itself to easy descent, and the glory of pride and its implications, which involved a strenuous and bloody uphill climb until the peaks would be reached, where future horizons would be opened, and where strong guarantees would be obtained of what was attained and could be attained in our current age, God willing.

Some people imagined that Iran's instigation of instincts, the easiness with which people can go downward, and religion-masked obsession could attract the uneducated and unschooled, along with those with ulterior motives. Nonetheless, our great people, who understood and realized by intuition that national and pan-Arab considerations dictate that they accord due respect to the laws of the age they have chosen to live by, particularly since they tried these laws and experienced a new life as a result, as manifested in their practices, which were immersed with the martyrs' blood and exuded national chastity, knew that they were on a collision course with their enemies due to differences between two schools of thought in terms of intentions and conduct, in terms of the public and personal lives championed, and in terms of the laws of life and norms cherished by the people of Iraq and the Tehran rulers' wishes.

Hence, there were two positions, two trenches, two schools of thought, and two modes of behavior. Here was the national soil, and there was Iranian territory. Here was a sky that had the potential of great welfare to the Iraqi people, as God ordained. By contrast, there was another sky. There was no room for confusion, isolationism, languor, or reaction. This honorable, firm, enlightened, and noble position was necessary so that Iraq could remain and develop as we wished for it. This is a description of the situation then.

How did the overall state of affairs unfold? From the outset, our knowledge of our people's resources, potentials, and noble traits was not the mere outcome of a scientific, theoretical, and philosophical analysis. It was the outcome of a living relationship with our people, and of our identification with the minor details of their life, and also with their aspirations and potentials. We have not examined our people with a cold-blooded eye, as some researchers or specialists do. As a matter of fact, we have established a linkage with the people's pulse and experienced their woes. We get angry when

they get angry and smile when they laugh. We frown and get angry when they become miserable. We might weep when they experience pain. We identify with their causes and make sacrifices in blood to uphold these causes. We rebel when the people are done injustice, and express a willingness to make sacrifices when misfortune hits them.

We tell them only what is true. We do not ask them to do something unless we think that such a thing is required for a just and legitimate cause. We speak to them with one face, one method, and one language, and not with various methods, languages, and with many faces.

Our people have always understood us, with their sharp instinct, with their sizzling pure national blood, and with their mind that was born in a civilization which tops every other human civilization in terms of age and sacrifice despite the various cultural, educational, and social backgrounds they may come from. They used to understand a hint to deduce the meaning very easily, more than what others who may have a better ability to express themselves and who may have a higher level of education, would understand what is written.

They used to understand the right positions, principles, and objectives, principally through their rightly guided and shrewd conscience, because these objectives, principles, and positions were carried by faithful hearts and minds that did not bargain over the people's issues, but believed in the people as a most sacred thing, second only to God Almighty.

In the glorious al-Qadisiyah, we confronted Iranian superiority in numbers and fanatic, deranged minds, hindered from seeing life and everything bright and logical, scientific, rational, and just; and even anything advocated by the righteous religion. Their aggression came in masses, with wondering glances and deranged, blindfolded minds, accompanied by their compelling devils. They came in scores, and even hundreds of thousands of individuals in every battle to clash with the mujahidin in our Armed Forces and great people whose minds and eyes are endowed with sight, and who have a great faith and sharp vision. These maniacs would not stop until the spears of the valiant mujahidin penetrated their chests, sending them to the abyss into which they were tempted by Satan and into which God the merciful wished them to fall, humiliated and dead. We did not wish them such an end in advance before the start of the conflict. You can imagine what it means when a battle is fought with bayonets and spears between two groups with one of them having that well-known superiority in numbers. However, this is what God has wished for us and what the temptation of Satan had wished for

them. You can also imagine the ferocity of the battle by looking at the following figures:

Our ground troops fought 282 battles, an average of one battle every 10 days over a period of eight years of war. The number of weapons that were used in the battles on our side numbered 8,495 tanks; 11,939 armored vehicles; 4,659 guns of various calibers; 5,859 mortars; 740 fixed-wing aircraft of various types; 808 helicopters of various types; and 57 naval vessels, including various boats, landing ships, hovercraft, anti-submarine boats, and mine sweepers.

In the Mother of Battles we also faced evil ones too, and people willing to die for no reason at all except that this is in accordance with the concepts they have. We dealt with their missiles and their bombs which were fired from a distance. We faced their men only on occasions whose results are known. In the two battles, God supported us while the Devil was with them. Victory was ours and will continue to be so, God willing. They will get only what God and history has decided for them. Future generations will remember the evil they have done and continue to do.

Great people, and heroes of our valiant Armed Forces, from 4 September 1980 until now, we have tackled two anomalous trends during the immortal Saddam's al-Qadisiyah and the immortal Mother of Battles. We faced those who upheld a materialist civilization which is dissociated from the sublime values championed by all religions. Their trend placed them in complete contradiction with these religions. They became afflicted with arrogance and despotism which made them unjustly treat others. Leading this straying group of evildoers were those voices which were louder than the others in the same group, claiming they represent a balanced modern civilization with its two branches of freedom and democracy. This is what they claim. How remote are these claims from facts, reality, justice, and fairness.

In the glorious al-Qadisiyah, we faced those who claimed they have found the right course of religion and its applications. Their deviation was fatal to both life and religion because by exceeding bounds, they deviated from both of them. The Shah's deviation and other factors have made those who were responsible for giving a religious cover to some of the Iranian resistance factions move away from life and religion instead of balancing between theory and behavior with respect to religion and life. They could have done this by resisting the shah's deviation and the cover they sought to facilitate their goal of toppling the shah.

The successive religions were not a part of backwardness and were not against a well-balanced civilization. These religions embodied a mission and a certain behav-

ior opposed to backwardness and injustice. They were never against progress and justice. They represented these values in the best possible manner that can be visualized toward life and its meanings and toward religious rites and their objectives. They were never against freedom because they themselves embodied freedom in its best form. They were not in contradiction with life. Rather, they rejuvenated life when it withered and died from within. They were not against renewal because they, themselves, were a renewal of God's pledge and his responsibility toward life and man. The innovators and those who advocate freedom have not opposed freedom in its well-balanced and genuine meaning. Religion was opposed by the anarchists, the backward people, and those who have gone astray. The Arabs of the desert whom the Koran describes as those who are the worst in unbelief and hypocrisy were but backward and straying people and not innovators, and sponsors or advocates of civilization.

In al-Qadisiyah, we confronted those who preached backwardness at the expense of the outlook for progress. Islam has never been among the factors that enticed them into backwardness, as the suspect media in the West try to propagate. Backwardness resulted from the course adopted by the Shah, a course which bore the claim of progress copied into a sphere where it did not belong—under the temptation of some well-known circles in the West. In order to have a fitting sphere, progress must be a true nationalist Iranian and Islamic believing in Islamic fraternity. We believe that this is the nearest description to the Iranian people because it is the nearest description to all the Islamic peoples, regardless of other details. Alienation from Islam or from nationalism is not what is sought by the wise men of Iran and those who have a living conscience among them. This is how we view things and we hope we have not fallen into the sin of doubt.

Despite all the malicious challenges, obduracy, aggressiveness, and evil in the two trends, our perception and conduct remained genuine during the two confrontations. Our perception and conduct remained balanced and interdependent in the two arenas of battle and confrontation in the immortal Mother of Battles and in the glorious al-Qadisiyah. This is because we are genuine as a people, party, and leadership.

In the immortal Mother of Battles, we adhered to our comprehensive deep conviction in the essence and goals of religion instead of being influenced by those who claim civilization and modernization and seek to shake up the basis of our perception and conduct and make us fall into backwardness. We did not copy from the trend of those Western aggressors or fall into their abyss. Likewise, we did not copy from the opposite



camp, motivated by a vindictive feeling and outlook, only to fall into the abyss of shortsightedness and vile backwardness. We also did not adopt the worst that is associated with religion as viewed by the backward people. We stuck to our genuine view of civilization, science, and technology and developed them, along with the methods of manifesting and embodying them, under the most crucial circumstances and most critical arenas of the showdown until a jihadist image of the great achievements of our great people and *mujahid* party was born.

During the showdown with the first trend under the circumstances of war with Iran or after the great victory on 8 August 1988, we adhered, as we have said, to what we properly understood of religion, as perception and conduct, and to our view of life and the importance of renewing it. We adhered to the overall view of our relations through our nationalism and pan-Arab call on the one hand, and through our relations with humanity and our responsibility on the other.

The two confrontations seemed to respond to what God, the merciful and compassionate, had ordained. Without drawing the opposite picture of the two, there could be no comprehensive perspective for which Iraq is struggling and there could be no proper experience for development and jihad for the vanguards of the Arab nation. Furthermore, the two confrontations were two tests which were inevitable on the basis of their description and arenas, as we have said, so that victory would afterward be a great test or affliction in line with this description. They could only be willed by God so that we can be on a better path toward the best spiritual and cultural values and their effective power that dignifies the nation on both earth and in heaven, thus winning the satisfaction of the merciful God and enjoying a great civilization that links the two heads of the bridge of our great nation's civilization—the past and present—so that the course would be accessible toward the sublime values of the future, God willing.

On these bases, the superiority was based and victory was achieved on 8 August 1988. On the basis of these concepts, we viewed, and still view, our national, pan-Arab, and humanitarian responsibility. On the basis of these same concepts too, we recall the anniversary of this decisive victory, with no feelings in our perspective and course except the feeling of responsibility — which bonds together the genuine, understanding believers in God — toward the peoples of Iran. It is the same feeling of responsibility we have toward our relationship with the peoples of the world, even if this may be based on concepts, values, and interests in certain fields, and even if it overlaps with meanings, values, and concepts

related to the kind of relationship we want to establish with Muslims in other nations in general.

In our speech last year, we spoke on the peace initiatives we launched and addressed to Iran, directly or through international organizations, prior to the manifest victory, which totaled 215. Likewise, we addressed concepts and a framework for the relationship with Iran. On this occasion as well, we still believe in these concepts, and would like to underline them.

However, certain Iranian officials did not receive these calls on the basis of what they know about the genuine Arabs, to whom we belong and who were honored by God Almighty with the task of conveying His message, nay, His messages, to all mankind. Instead, they began to use these calls for shortsighted maneuvers in the arcane world of politics whenever they thought that referring to these calls, or concealing their true intentions through superficial contacts with Iraq, may serve their shortsighted view. They did not take any serious actions or steps to respond to these calls. The announcements they used to make every now and then were meant to say to those who are against Iraq: Do not intimidate the regime in Iran because the door to the relationship with Iraq is open; or, appease the regime in Iran, otherwise they will have to positively reconsider their relationship with Iraq.

On the other hand, and on certain circumstances and occasions, they declare their hostility once again, reminding those who listen to them of the reasons and circumstances of the animosity, and its historical background and reasons, which reflect the hostility and designs of the concerned officials in Tehran against Iraq.

We are aware that the majority of nations, if not all in a broader sense, try to tie together certain basic elements in their view of relations with this or that state. They also design their reactions in accordance with the hints they receive in accordance with the perspective of the market and commercial experience. However, this commercial view is linked to a more comprehensive economic view, which is not only linked to the momentous action only, but to something farther. Therefore, we consider such an action and attitude by the officials concerned in Iran as even lagging behind the standards of the age in the form we criticize. Furthermore, Iraq also has a view of its national and pan-Arab interests which is different from that of those we criticize because of their tactics concerning the relationship with Iraq.

We told the Iranians who, through their contacts with us, imagined that the circumstances of the embargo might lead to what makes us accept bargaining at the expense of our principles and values and the foundations and bases of our ethics and the interests of our people and



nation that this can never take place, and that there can only be a relationship set on clear legal and ethical bases and on the basis of good neighborliness and not anything else.

On this basis, if Iran seeks such relations with Iraq, it should return the Iraqi property we deposited with it when we imagined that the other side enjoyed the expected minimum of ethics and values, especially since our conflict in the immortal Mother of Battles was with those whom they described as the arch Satan and those whom they described as big Satans. We declare and say only what we believe in. We do not think something and loudly claim something else. We only state facts. When we make promises, we keep them, and when we conclude an agreement in an atmosphere of equality and under just circumstances, we do not renege on them. When we extend our hands, we extend them to clarify the objective behind the action.

Our prisoners are still unjustifiably incarcerated in the prisons of Iran and are suffering in an unjust manner that neither Islam, nor the positive Islamic laws in their most basic meanings can condone in spite of the end of hostilities and the war seven years ago while we released the Iranian prisoners as a gesture of good will, without any bargaining, to expand the scope of peace between our country and people and Iran.

Great people, and masses of our immortal nation, you know that our ideology has a probing insight, meaning it is clear, just, modern, and fair in its basic intellectual and practical fields. Being a modern and enlightened ideology, deeply-etched in our genuine and glorious past and our eternal cultural and spiritual heritage, the attainment of its objectives requires the people's optimal mobilization in the right directions, without deceptive flattery, and according to a disciplined conduct that condones no deviation, inertia, and backwardness. The attainment of such a state requires that all work with a modern faith and scientific approach that would secure the prerequisites of fruitful action. To achieve this, it is inevitable to have great awareness and an understanding of objectives and verification methods each within his sphere and the type and level of responsibility. Then, it will do us no harm to see that our people comprise two generations that are interrelated, convergent, and divergent in the ability to think and behave.

Great men and women strugglers in the Iraq of glory and the banner of God is Great, just as the basic components that noble people enjoy such as well-established culture and glorious history count, so does the attitude to the history of the nation's armies, particularly when these armies are a living and essential part of the people in terms of formation, aspirations, and configuration and

not armies for a certain period of time in the lives of the rulers. Instead, they represent a shield and a mind within the framework of minds and capabilities that are larger than these armies and for an entire historical stage in the life of those who are concerned over their people, their position, and the impact they have.

Thus, the approach to what the armies role should be will be a basic pillar in the people's history just as they are its shield and great arm.

Because the Iraqi Army is the army of the people and nation in terms of establishment, aspirations, and composition, our people look up to their army and to the history of its showdowns and victories and identify with them in terms of value and effectiveness just as they look up to each and every great and outstanding figure in their honorable and ancient history, life, and memory. Based on these concepts, your army, the honest redeemer, has continued to uphold the people's principles and remained immune to the campaigns of enemies and covetous invaders. Based on these concepts, we recall the significance of the manifest victory achieved on the Day of Days each and every year. Blessed be your Day, the anniversary which evokes memories.

O great people; O sons of our glorious nation: Our celebration of the Day of Days, the day of manifest and great victory in the glorious al-Qadisiyah battle, coincides with our celebrations, as Arabs and Muslims, of the birthday of our honest Arab Prophet Muhammad Bin-'Abdallah, the absolute master of all prophets, may God's peace and blessings be upon him, who was sent as a mercy unto mankind, and whose birth ushered the extinguishment of the Magians' fire and the rupture of the Khosrau's palace. Thanks to the efforts the prophet, may God's peace and blessings be upon him, made to communicate the divine message, and to the faith and swords of his companions, Muslim leaders and soldiers, the true Islamic religion gained circulation among other communities. Thus, its principles spread in various parts of the world, where justice and virtue prevailed, and where people were driven out of the darkness of injustice to the realms of light, freedom, equality, fairness, and progress.

To you all, I address my greetings. Many happy returns of the day along the paths of guidance and enlightenment.

God is great.

Greetings to our great people, the people who fought the two glorious al-Qadisiyah battles.

Greetings to the valiant mujahid and honest Iraqi Army, which fought the glorious al-Qadisiyah battle and the immortal Mother of Battles.

Glory, loftiness, and immortal paradise to the martyrs of our people and Armed Forces, the martyrs who fell in the glorious al-Qadisiyah battle of Saddam and the immortal Mother of Battles.

Glory to martyrs.

Glory to the martyrs of our glorious Arab nation, and the martyrs of its armies who fell whenever they had to walk a bloody path to peaks and noble goals.

Glory to Palestine's martyrs.

Greetings to the mujahid Palestinian people in their great jihad.

Long live the Arab nation as an honorable and powerful nation.

God is great. God is great.

May the lowly be accursed.

#### **Paper Celebrates Anniversary of 'Victory' Over Iran**

JN0708082895 Baghdad INA in Arabic  
0625 GMT 7 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Baghdad, 7 Aug (INA)—The newspaper AL-THAWRAH stresses that the imperialist and Zionist forces that launched the 30-state aggression against Iraq and insist on prolonging the ugly embargo which they imposed on our people five years ago, are the same forces that encouraged the Iranian rulers to stage aggression against Iraq on 4 September 1980 and supported the continuation of the war for eight years.

In an editorial today on the seventh anniversary of Iraq's victory over Iranian aggression, the paper, which speaks for the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, says: When we recall the evil objectives of the Iranian regime and its illusions and expansionist dreams in Iraq and the Arab world; when we recall that for eight years, it displayed arrogance and intransigence and rejected all the international initiatives and resolutions calling for ending the war and establishing a just and comprehensive peace between the two countries; when we recall that it rejected 215 Iraqi, regional, and international peace initiatives and calls; when we recall that it did not concede to a cease fire until it lost its military option and was certain that it lost the war; and when we recall that our Armed Forces were able to liberate in three months all the Iraqi territory the Iranian regime occupied for six years — when we recall all these facts and others, we can determine the greatness and historical significance of Iraq's triumph.

The paper adds: One of the basic facts which must be remembered on this day is the fact that Iraq's victory would not have been possible without the wisdom and logic of President Saddam Husayn and his strategic role in the management of the political and military chapters of the conflict. Nor would it have been possible without the militant spirit of the steadfast Iraqi people; their perseverance and strong belief in the justness of their defensive battle and the legitimacy of its objectives; or without the vigilance of the Armed Forces and their valiant resistance to the Khomeynite ill winds and their protection of the greater Arab homeland's eastern flank.

The paper notes that the Iranian regime joined the trenches of the U.S.-Zionist coalition and implemented the second chapter of the 30-state aggression against Iraq — the chapter of treason and treachery. The paper says this act was not the first demonstration of the suspect relationship between that regime and that coalition. It was preceded by the Irangate scandal; by the Zionist raid against the Tammuz reactor, which was designed for peaceful purposes; and by several secret deals, chief among which was the deal to release the hostages in the U.S. Embassy in Tehran.

#### **Campaign To Repair Destroyed Weapons Detailed**

JN0408192295 Baghdad AL-QADISIYAH in Arabic  
31 Jul 95 p 7

[Report by Urjuwan Hashim 'Ali]

[FBIS Translated Text] In the name of God and with the blessings of mujahid leader Saddam Husayn, may God protect him, the leader's creative men have completed the ground part of the leader's campaign under the direct supervision of 'Udayy Saddam Husayn to repair the various types of tanks, armored personnel carriers [APC's], artillery pieces, and medium and light weapons destroyed and rendered out of service during the honorable showdowns of the glorious al-Qadisiyah battle [war with Iran] and the immortal Mother of Battles.

The Iraqi mujahidin have upheld the slogan of "The Campaign is Meant to Uphold the Word of God, Promote the Homeland's Interests, and Vindicate the Leader." From the start, these mujahidin have vowed to remain loyal soldiers in the defense of the homeland. Moreover, they have vowed to present their accomplishment in this regard to his excellency the president, may God protect him, to great Iraq, and to our steadfast and patient people.

And today, we see the outcome of the campaign. We see loftiness and pride filling the spacious display grounds of al-Muthanna airport. This reflects the Iraqis' pride and defiance of hardship to achieve the impossible.

AL-QADISIYAH has visited the place and seen the repaired tanks and apc's. Several interviews were conducted with the leader's men. An authorized source in the staff conducting the leader's second campaign said: 'Udayy Saddam Husayn is the mastermind behind the accomplishment of this great task. He planned for it in terms of procedures, thinking, and organization. The first fruit of the efforts made in this regard materialized in the parade held on the auspicious birthday of his excellency the president. The whole endeavor was started in response to the historic call of the leader, may God protect him, made during the 12th cabinet session, at which he made the following remarks: You must take hardship into account and develop your own models. Afterward, his excellency the leader president assigned 'Udayy Saddam Husayn the task of completing the march by beginning a new campaign to end by 30 July. The aim of the second campaign was to repair and overhaul all equipment and weapons, including tanks, apc's, self-propelled and tracked artillery pieces, medium and light weapons, surface-to-surface missiles, and telecommunications equipment.

The authorized source added: All those involved in the campaign are affiliated with the Armed Forces. They are the mechanical and electrical engineers, the Saddam fedayeen, and the mujahidin affiliated with the Military Industrialization Organization, who worked as a single team to achieve the same objective; namely, the accomplishment of this sublime task. God be praised, their efforts in this regard have been successful. They relayed the glad tidings in this regard to the idolized leader on 30 July as a gift to his excellency the president in recognition of the heroic role he has played in leading the ship of the Ba'th Party and the revolution to safe shores.

The money saved in this ground campaign totaled \$148 million, which is the equivalent of 222 billion Iraqi dinars. God be praised, we did not have to spend a single dollar. Nor did we import any single spare part or repair equipment. The campaign, which was planned by 'Udayy Saddam Husayn, was conducted under his supervision. It was implemented by men who proved to be true to their word when they made their pledge to the leader president. Indeed, they have been his men and at his disposal, particularly under the circumstances of the brutal embargo clamped on our mujahid people.

The authorized source asserted that the leader's second campaign has promoted the significance and means of national defense and largely enhanced the country's national income, which is unfamiliar under the circumstances of the embargo. He added: It is an honor to us that the march will be completed by the leader's third campaign, which will begin on 2 August 1995.

The aim of this campaign is to repair all out-of-service and faulty equipment during a record period of three months. The glad tidings regarding the completion of the second campaign today will be consummated by other glad tidings to be announced soon by the leader's men in the Air Force.

Major General Muhammad Rashid Isma'il, director of the Electromechanical Engineering Department, has spoken to us about his department's participation in the campaign, saying: Our department has rebuilt out-of-service artillery pieces and weapons. Great and exceptional efforts were made to implement the instructions issued by his excellency the leader president. 'Udayy Saddam Husayn supervised the campaign. His field visits and wise directives were instrumental in providing the requirements of the campaign and rendering it a success. In this campaign, those involved have repaired artillery pieces; various types of machine guns; heavy, medium, and field guns; as well as medium and light weapons.

The director of the Electromechanical Engineering Department, who holds the rank of a major general, said: Work continued around the clock so that we could keep the promise we made to our great leader and, at the same time, to demonstrate the outstanding picture of honorable Iraq in these circumstances and the greatness, competence, zeal, and sacrifice of the Iraqi fighters.

He said: The parts used in repairing this equipment came from the used and refurbished spare parts, and some were manufactured at the tanks repair workshop.

The armored vehicle repair workshop also contributed to the success of the leader's second campaign. Brigadier General Eng. 'Abd-al-Karim Ahmad Sultan said: It is an honor to the mujahidin in the armored vehicle repair workshop to answer the leader's call once again and to repair the armored vehicles. In this campaign, all the armored vehicles and self-propelled guns included in the campaign were repaired. The direct supervision of, and the field visits by 'Udayy Saddam Husayn left a good impression on the mujahidin, thus enabling us to work day and night to complete the campaign within the set timeframe and to present the results as a gift to the leader and the great people.

We were joined in our conversation by Brigadier General Khalid Hasan al-Janabi from the workshop to repair the medium-sized armored vehicles. He said: Our workshop helped with repairing the recovery tanks which were previously modified into rocket launchers. We returned them to their previous condition as recovery tanks. These tanks were repaired, and all the hydraulic systems in them were rendered operational, with very high competence. The repair was done by employing our



own resources and by using parts from the destroyed tanks. Some parts were also manufactured inside the workshop itself.

Brigadier General Eng. Mahdi Salih al-Nu'aymi from the tanks repair workshop said: We answered the leader's call to repair the out-of-service and scrapped tanks. Some of these tanks were used as firing targets, but we started a general repair effort to refurbish them. No new spare parts were used in this campaign. Instead, we used and renovated spare parts and machines. We also manufactured several parts to fix on the tanks. The pioneering role played by 'Udayy Saddam Husayn in leading this campaign has helped increase the fighters' zeal. We were honored by his visits to our workshop. He saw the destroyed tanks before they were repaired, and then saw them after repair.

The directorate for repairing signals equipment also played a role in this campaign. Brigadier General Eng. Rafil Wahib Hamad said: Our workshop participated in several campaigns in the past. It helped in the repair of 13,000 various telecommunication equipment, generators, and recharging machines. In this campaign, we repaired telecommunication equipment, recharging machines, and base plates. The campaign saved hard currency. That equipment could not be imported. So, it was repaired despite all the difficulties we faced to provide the spare parts. We invented and manufactured other alternatives.

He added: This campaign strengthened our confidence that we can maintain these machines for an indefinite period. The electronic equipment has a lifetime of 10 years; we were able to extend it indefinitely.

We must note that several visitors attended the exhibition to see what has been achieved and repaired. AL-QADISIYAH recorded the impression of the visitors. They voiced admiration of what they saw and beseeched God to protect their mujahidin sons and their mujahid leader Saddam Husayn, may God protect him.

#### UN Commission Spokesman's Remarks 'Inaccurate'

JN0708190795 Baghdad INA in Arabic  
1800 GMT 7 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Baghdad, 7 Aug (INA)—Commenting on what was announced by the spokesman of the UN Special Commission in Bahrain today that Iraq has not informed the commission of its warning that it should end its missions by the end of August, a media spokesman said in Baghdad today that this statement is inaccurate. The spokesman added that Iraq's stance was frankly and clearly communicated to Rolf Ekeus, head of the UN Special Commission,

during his meeting with Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz on Saturday [5 August] — namely, Ekeus has to close the biological file no later than the end of August and inform the UN Security Council that Iraq has fulfilled its obligations in accordance with Section C of Resolution 687 to implement Paragraph 22 of the said resolution to lift the oil embargo on Iraq.

#### Sick Iraqis Protest Medicine Shortage to Ekeus

JN0608183095 Baghdad INA in Arabic  
1647 GMT 6 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Baghdad, 6 Aug (INA)—At noon today, a number of sick Iraqis gathered outside the residence of Rolf Ekeus, chairman of the UN Security Council's Special Commission, to protest their continued suffering as a result of the blockade, which has been imposed on Iraq for more than five years.

The protesters, who are suffering from the complications of crippling diseases due to the acute shortage of medicines and necessary treatment, raised placards in Arabic and English that read "Continuing the Blockade on Iraq Means Certain Death For Us," and "Return Our Human Rights."

One person, who carried medical reports indicating that he has bladder cancer, was in extreme pain but insisted on clinging to life, said: I cannot obtain the necessary medicine to treat this fatal disease because they are not available at the hospitals and medical centers.

The Iraqi Health Ministry statistics show that more than one million people of various ages have died since the blockade was imposed on Iraq on 6 August 1990 and until the end of last year due to the acute shortage of medicine, vaccines, and various treatments.

The importation of medicine has ceased due to the blockade and the pressures the United States is putting on companies and banks. Before the blockade, Iraq used to import \$400-500 million worth of medicines and other requirements, which were disbursed free of charge to patients in government hospitals.

#### Kurdish Groups To Attend U.S.-Sponsored Talks

NC0708161495 Paris AFP in English  
1409 GMT 7 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Dubai, United Arab Emirates, Aug 7 (AFP) — The two main feuding Kurdish factions in northern Iraq are to meet Wednesday [9 August] in Dublin for U.S.-sponsored peace talks, Kurdish officials said Monday.

A Turkish observer will attend the three-day talks between the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) and the rival Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP), they said.



The talks were originally scheduled for the Portuguese capital of Lisbon but Washington informed the two parties of the change in plan last week.

"There will be no meeting in Lisbon. The meeting will take place in Dublin and the two parties have given their accord," Fawzi al-Atrushi, the KDP's representative in London, told AFP by telephone.

The PUK's spokesman in Ankara, Sazan Sa'ib, confirmed his party would attend the talks which will be the first between the two sides' political bureaus in seven months.

The KDP and the PUK, which have controlled northern Iraq in defiance of Baghdad since the end of the 1991 Gulf War, are locked in a bitter struggle for power and over tax revenue.

More than 2,000 people have been killed since the fighting erupted in May 1994, according to Kurdish sources.

A three-month ceasefire ran out on July 15 and renewed clashes which flared on July 9, mainly around the town of Irbil, cost more than 200 lives, according to UN and foreign aid workers.

#### **Talabani Loyalists Reportedly Surrender to Barzanis**

JN0508192395 *Baghdad Iraq Television Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 5 Aug 95*

[Place names as heard]

[FBIS Translated Text] The special correspondent of the Iraqi News Agency in al-Sulaymaniyah has said that the situation of the Jalalis [supporters of Jalal Talabani, leader of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan] is deteriorating there due to the large loss of human lives they have recently sustained and their deteriorating standard of living, not to mention the large number of wounded in their ranks.

A reliable source in the Jalal Talabani group informed the correspondent that several gunmen affiliated with the Talabani group surrendered to the offices of Mas'ud Barzani in the Halabjah District and in certain villages on the outskirts of the al-Sulaymaniyah Governorate last week.

The source added that the wealthy supporters of the Talabani group, whose wealth is immense, are feeling indignant and resentful because Jalal Talabani has asked them to contribute to a fund-raising campaign to allow for the payment of the salaries of the combatants and employees, who have not received their salaries for the past four months.

The fund-raising campaign took place in the areas of Arabit, Shahrazor, Bibaz, and Qaradar.

The reliable source went on to say that conflicts and clashes erupted between members of the Gilali and Zanganah tribes in the areas of Kani Sard and Awa Khuri in the Darbandikhan District. Eight persons were killed and 10 others were wounded in these clashes. The clashes were triggered when Hama Karim Lawa, a member of the Zanganah tribe, was killed in an ambush laid by the Jalalis. Moreover, the Jalalis killed Muhyi-al-Din Ibrahim Fattah, on whose support Jalal Talabani counted. Talabani ordered Fattah killed, because he had abandoned their relationship and opted to aid the poor and needy and to engage in humanitarian efforts.

In London, the newspaper AL-HAYAH published a statement attributed to a person called Hasan al-Naqib [leader of the Independent Iraqi Council-Arab Nationalists], in which he said that the alliance between the so-called Arab and Kurdish factions grouped in the so-called Iraqi National Congress [INC] has broken up. He added that the resistance to the Baghdad authority is hopeless and over.

Hasan al-Naqib scathingly criticized Mas'ud Barzani and Ahmad al-Jalabi [INC coordinator] and accused the latter of collecting funds from the U.S. intelligence service, the al-Sabah family, and King Fahd without giving anybody anything. That is why he, along with Muhammad Salih Bahr-al-'Ulam [an Iraqi opposition figure] and others, decided to withdraw from the so-called INC, which he described worthless and dead.

#### **Barzani Radio Reports Attacks by Talabani Forces**

JN0708112795 *(Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan in Arabic 1800 GMT 6 Aug 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Although the Jalalis [forces of Jalal Talabani] claim they abide by the cease-fire and respect the mediators' efforts, they continue to attack our peshmerga's defensive positions.

At 1400 [1000 GMT] on 4 August, the Jalalis attacked the (Rosgari) battalion positions in the Qainaja village near Sayyid Sadiq. The hero peshemrga from the (Shahbarja) force confronted the enemy attack, defeating the Jalali remnants, inflicting heavy losses on them. As a result of the attack, one armed element was killed in (Kanoraba) and others were wounded while our peshmerga sustained no losses.

On the night of the same day, the Jalalis shelled (Jirbinavu) in retaliation for their defeat. The Chamchamal artillery force pounded the Jalalis positions.

Thus, the Jalalis prove to the world, public opinion, and the Kurdish people that they do not keep their promises,

do not appreciate the mediators' efforts, and that they cannot desist from their course of aggression and their wicked conspiracies. They also do not respond to any peace call, scorn all mediation efforts under way to end the fighting, and continue to conspiracies and schemes while claiming they abide by the cease-fire.

#### **Kurdistan Democratic Party Pledges To Crush Agents**

JN0408194595 Baghdad AL-'IRAQ in Arabic  
26 Jul 95 p 2

[FBIS Translated Text] Comrade Ahmad Muhammad Sa'id al-Atrushi, secretary of the [pro-government] Kurdistan Democratic Party, has affirmed that the revolutionary concepts, principles, and national values which leader struggler President Saddam Husayn, may God preserve and protect him, announced in his historic speech on the anniversary of the great 17-30 July Revolution, truly and seriously express the Iraqi people's will to confront the forces of treachery and foil the unjust blockade. This came during his meeting with the leaders and members of Irbil branch and Makhmur local committee during the plenary meeting which was held in Makhmur District.

Comrade al-Atrushi said: The will of the Iraqis, both Arabs and Kurds, shall remain strong. Our Iraqi people, who are known for their historical struggle stands during the glorious Saddam's al-Qadisiyah and the immortal Mother of Battles epic, are capable, with the help of God, the resolution of the leader, and their high national spirit, of crossing to the bank of peace and safety and foiling all imperialist and Zionist plans.

Comrade al-Atrushi referred to the unique leading role of the historical struggler leader President Saddam Husayn in carrying out and achieving autonomy for our Kurdish people in the Kurdistan region. He pledged to the leader president in the name of the leaders and strugglers of the Kurdistan Democratic Party that they will persevere and redouble their efforts in order to cleanse the land of Iraq in Kurdistan from the filth and dirt of those midgets and agents, now that their false claims and slogans have been exposed and the voices of public protestation and denunciations are rising day after day in every village and town in Iraqi Kurdistan. He called upon his comrades to intensify the struggle on the arena in Kurdistan and to lead the angry masses in order to cleanse the region of all traitors and agents.

At the end of the meeting, the participants addressed a cable of pledge to struggler leader President Saddam Husayn which says: The leaders and members of the Irbil branch of our Kurdistan Democratic Party who are meeting in Makhmur District seize the occasion of

their plenary party session to extend to your excellency their warmest congratulations and best wishes on the anniversary of the 17-30 July Revolution and to renew the pledge of loyal, sincere men to the historical leader comrade struggler Saddam Husayn and to great Iraq and the autonomy march in Iraqi Kurdistan that they will forge ahead with greater effort and energy in order to foil and defeat all the vicious plots and mean methods which the United States and its allies in evil and tyranny are using against our brave Iraqi people; these steadfast and patient strugglers, both Arabs and Kurds, who stand for their national honor and sovereignty. The leaders and members of our Kurdistan Democratic Party in Irbil who are meeting in Makhmur, which enjoys the fruits of autonomy away from the agent hands which are stained with the blood of our innocent Kurdish people, are today more determined than ever to march forward behind the high-waving flag of justice, the flag of Allahu Akbar, the flag of Iraq and the historical leader Saddam Husayn. They pledge to God and the homeland to foil all the plans and plots and to crush the traitors and agents.

#### **INC Member on 'Breakup' of National Congress**

JN0408184195 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic  
1600 GMT 4 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The Iraqi opposition in northern Iraq is facing many problems, particularly differences within the Iraqi National Congress [INC], chaired by Ahmad al-Jalabi, in addition to differences between the two major rival Iraqi Kurdish factions—the Kurdistan Democratic Party [KDP] and the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan [PUK]. It appears that these differences have led to the breakup of the Iraqi opposition. Ghassan al-Ma'luf telephoned Major General Hasan al-Naqib, member of the INC Presidential Council, who opposes the INC's current policy.

[Begin recording] [al-Ma'luf] Major General Hasan al-Naqib, what do you think are the reasons behind the breakup of the INC?

[Al-Naqib] Actually, we were hoping that this congress would rescue our people from the autocratic Iraqi regime. When we first joined the INC, we hoped it would unite all the national Iraqi factions in order to rescue Iraq and our people from this unjust regime. What actually happened was that all the decisions on methods of action and implementation were made unilaterally.

[Al-Ma'luf] Unilateral decisions by whom?

[Al-Naqib] By Ahmad al-Jalabi and his men. This is what we did our best to rectify. We devoted all our efforts for the sake of rescuing the congress from individual autocracy, but without success. Things remained

the same and the congress reached a stage of decline and people lost confidence in this congress. This is the main issue. Later, as you know, fighting erupted among the Kurds [words indistinct], and as the INC is based in northern Iraq, it was impossible to do anything in such a case.

**Sees INC as 'Finished'**

MM0708103295 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic  
4 Aug 95 pp 1,6

[Report by Ibrahim Humaydi in Damascus and Zuhayr Qusaybati in London: "Al-Naqib Tells AL-HAYAH: The Congress Is Finished and I Shall Not Return to Northern Iraq"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Major General Hasan al-Naqib, member of the Presidential Council of the Iraqi National Congress [INC], which is opposed to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, has affirmed that forces of the [Kurdistan] Democratic Party [KDP] (led by Mas'ud Barzani) raided his house in the Salah al-Din area in northern Iraq. He added that he considers the Congress to be "finished." He disclosed in a statement to AL-HAYAH that he will not be returning to northern Iraq, which is under the control of the Kurds, and which the INC uses as a base for launching its activities.

Meanwhile, former Iraqi military intelligence chief Major General Wafiq al-Samarra'i, who is now in Damascus, has accused Barzani of having organized an attempt to assassinate him. But the KDP considered his statement "a mere fabrication."

It is recalled that the INC Presidential Council consists, in addition to al-Naqib, of Barzani and Muhammad Bahr-al-'Ulum, who had previously frozen his membership of the Council. It is recalled also that al-Samarra'i left Baghdad for northern Iraq in November 1994 and declared that he had joined the ranks of the opposition.

Clashes took place in the Salah al-Din area in the evening of the day before yesterday between a group belonging to the KDP on the one hand and a group belonging to al-Naqib and al-Samarra'i on the other. Al-Naqib, who is in Damascus, affirmed to AL-HAYAH that a force belonging to the KDP tried to assassinate General Mahdi 'Abdallah, who works with him in the independent Iraqi body. He added: "They stormed my house because they want to bring pressure to bear on me, although the direct reason is a simple one and is connected with the seizure of Major General al-Samarra'i's car."

Yesterday AL-HAYAH conducted a telephone interview with al-Naqib in Damascus. In this interview, Al-Naqib said: "I shall not return to Northern Iraq as there

is nothing useful I can do from there and the matter is desperate." Asked if that meant that he has severed relations with the INC and Barzani following the incident [of the attack on his house], he replied: "The issue is a personal one." He added that he considers "the INC to be finished." He stressed that the "Arab current is the basis and the INC is no longer capable of toppling the Iraqi regime, and so it is the duty of every sincere Iraqi to partake in a decisive field action to topple the regime and put an end to the state of death, starvation, and executions."

On his part, al-Samarra'i told AL-HAYAH in Damascus that "Barzani has concluded an agreement with Saddam Husayn's regime to prevent the opposition from operating in the direction of Mosul, and also to attack the forces of (Jalal) Talabani, whenever they amass against the regime, and to expel Arab Iraqi opposition elements from the area under the control of the Barzani forces."

He pointed out that "agreement was reached during contacts that took place between Nitsirwan Idris Barzani and Azad Bruwari, members of the political bureau of the KDP, on the one hand and Qusayy Saddam Husayn and Iraqi intelligence chief Mani' 'Abd-al- Rashid on the other hand. [no closing quotemarks as published]

He added: "Barzani sent one of his followers, namely Muhammad Zarari, to assassinate me and I have informed Talabani and Ahmad al- Jalabi (INC Executive Council chairman) of this. Mas'ud Barzani also informed Turkish intelligence about the [planned anti-Saddam] uprising last March, and they conveyed the information to Saddam."

Al-Samarra'i called on all factions in the Iraqi opposition, particularly the Arab factions, to declare a clear position toward him [Barzani] because he was "an agent of the Saddam regime."

A KDP spokesman has stated that "these reports are all fabrications." He told AL-HAYAH in London that "the dissemination of such reports will only serve to impede the (U.S.) mediation initiative between the two parties — the KDP and the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan [PUK] — to establish peace in Kurdistan." He added that "the KDP stance on the regime is firm within the INC, and we have declared this position on more than one occasion. As to these reports, they are just a repetition of previous allegations."

In the meantime, Muhammad Baqir Hakim, president of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq, has concluded a visit to Damascus during which he was received by President Hafiz al-Asad and Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam. Al-Hakim has also met with some Iraqi opposition factions. Iraqi sources



told AL-HAYAH that the "popular visit dealt with al-Hakim's plan to set up a field command inside Iraq, so that action would replace the INC which is opposed by some forces" in the opposition. Damascus, however, expressed some reservations about this plan.

Asked why he did not attend the meeting called for by al-Hakim in Damascus, al-Naqib said that he had "had several meetings with him." He added that he refused to attend the meeting "because it was held without prior coordination, and because it is not possible to discuss important matters in an open conference that is more akin to a seminar. The Iraqi opposition has so far put forward a number of plans that lacked reality and so we have lost our credibility before people." He added that the al-Hakim plan "contained some positive points, but the matter needed some preparation so that we could take decisive decisions. I will not enter into any new plan. We do not want to lose our credibility still more." He said he believes the INC "is now frozen and nothing remains of it, after the internecine Kurdish-Kurdish fighting, other than al-Jalabi." He added that the INC comprised people who were imposed on the Iraqis and have been rejected by them. "We are in an unenviable situation."

#### **Paper Views Reasons for Defense Minister's Dismissal**

JN0608161795 Paris AL-MUHARRIR in Arabic  
7 Aug 95 p 2

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo — AL-MUHARRIR — Political quarters in Cairo are circulating information, described by informed sources as "extremely accurate" about the reasons which prompted the Iraqi president to dismiss Defense Minister 'Ali Hasan al-Majid in July. There has been much speculation regarding the background and motives of the dismissal, however information circulating in the Egyptian capital reaffirms that the main reason for the dismissal was the minister's failure to unearth and monitor a coup attempt known as the Abu Ghurayb operation.

The attempt came after a U.S. report in May ended a dispute between U.S. agencies on the stand which must be adopted vis-a-vis the regime of Iraqi President Saddam Husayn. The report reaffirms the desire of President Bill Clinton's administration to topple that regime because any justification for keeping that regime — represented by creating differences with Iran and confronting Iranian threats to the Gulf — no longer exists now that Iraq has moved toward resolving many of its differences with Iran.

The U.S. report, which was issued by the White House, notes that Iraq and Iran have entered an important stage

in developing their security relations and that they seek to directly threaten U.S. interests in the Gulf.

The report also notes that keeping the Saddam Husayn regime in Iraq no longer serves the American policy in terms of convincing the Gulf states to maintain a U.S. presence in the Gulf, something which would result in escalating the Iraqi-Iranian danger in the Gulf.

While drawing up plans against the Iraqi regime, U.S. agencies decided to rule out any consultation with Egypt and Saudi Arabia and to confine consultations to Kuwait. For this purpose, intensive contacts were embarked on last May with elements of the Iraqi opposition abroad, and Washington was the main center of these contacts. It was decided not to hold any meetings in Kuwait out of fear that reports on the Abu Ghurayb operation would leak out. It was agreed to bring into the Abu Ghurayb area large quantities of American weapons. During these meetings, the Iraqi opposition elements said that they did not need men to topple Saddam's regime and that over the past three years they had been able to recruit a large number of people to take part in this operation. The Iraqi opposition elements added that many opposition cells were being formed within the Iraqi Army and that these cells were linked with the Washington-based mother cell, called the "Hope [al-amal] Cell."

U.S. Intelligence reports noted that the "Hope Cell" comprises tens of thousands of soldiers and that the main difficulty facing this cell is the shortage of ammunition and weapons with which it can face the Iraqi regime.

According to available information, approximately 30 depots for advanced weapons were set up in the Abu Ghurayb area, and that elements from the Iraqi security played a role in bringing the weapons into the Abu Ghurayb area.

The second phase of implementing the plan began by placing these weapons at the disposal of several officers and soldiers who were enrolled in the "Hope Cell." Meanwhile, some Iraqi opposition leaders decided to stay in areas close to the Iraqi-Kuwaiti borders to supervise the implementation of the plan.

The third phase provided for placing the weapons at the disposal of some popular elements, which constitute the basic and primary channel of information used by some Iraqi opposition leaders abroad.

This operation was supervised by a person called Muhsin al- Jasimi.

In light of the previous three phases agreed upon, the U.S. Department of Defense decided to supervise the



operation directly. It dispatched 17 military officials to the Gulf region. They were carrying high precision photographs taken by the Israeli spy satellite Ofeq-1. This shows that Israel was involved in the operation.

It transpired that the Iranians were aware of the presence of the U.S. military team in the Gulf region. They initially thought the Americans had a great design against Iran, and that this design is what prompted the presence of this U.S. team. Given this state of affairs, Iranian President Hashemi-Rafsanjani asked Iranian agencies to ascertain why the U.S. team was in the region.

After a short while, the Iranian intelligence's estimate was that the U.S. team's presence was targeted against Iraq, and that it was about to carry out a grand operation to topple the Baghdad regime and install a new government extremely hostile to Iran.

Having obtained this information, the Iranians decided to inform the Iraqis of the relevant details, particularly since the Iranian leadership realized that the installment of a pro-U.S. government in Iraq would result in Iraqi territory turning into a base for U.S. anti-Iran operations.

Against the backdrop of this information, 'Ali Hizam [name as published], senior Iranian security official, visited Iraq and met with Qusayy Saddam Husayn. During this meeting, the Iranian official apprised Qusayy of all the details of this operation.

After the conclusion of 'Ali Hizam's visit to Iraq, the under secretary of the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs visited Iraq to sign a blanket security agreement with it. This agreement provided for cooperation between the two countries to resist U.S. plans to topple the Iraqi and Iranian regimes.

Qusayy Saddam Husayn, son of the Iraqi president who holds an important and sensitive post in the Iraqi security apparatus, had informed his father of the details of this plan. Immediately thereafter, a secret emergency meeting was held that brought together 'Udayy, 'Ali Hasan al-Majid, and Saddam.

During the meeting, Saddam blamed his defense minister for failing to detect the transportation of U.S. weapons to Iraqi territory and their deployment in Abu Ghurayb, and asked his son 'Udayy to thwart this attempt and eliminate all the elements taking part in it.

Indeed, 'Udayy carried out a grand military operation lasting 15 hours. During that operation, the area, the Republican Guards, and the Special Forces were placed under the command of Qusayy Saddam Husayn. Several people involved in the operation were apprehended.

In light of this, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn decided to dismiss 'Ali Hasan al-Majid, his defense minister and one of his closest aides.

**Peres Stresses IDF To Control West Bank**

TA0708170095 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew  
1500 GMT 7 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] In Taba, Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres and PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat are due to meet in an attempt to narrow the gaps in the negotiations on the IDF's [Israel Defense Forces] redeployment. The discussions in Elat between the Palestinian and Israeli representatives are due to resume early this evening.

This afternoon, Shim'on Peres told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee that the basic framework of the new agreement with the Palestinians has been written, but several problems still remained unresolved. Shim'on Peres stressed that most of the territory in Judaea and Samaria would remain under IDF control. There would be no one exclusive sovereign power in Judaea and Samaria, but rather a division of power between the Palestinians and Israel.

**Police Evacuate Demonstrators From Jerusalem Hill**

TA0708170295 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew  
1500 GMT 7 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] A short while ago, border policemen finished evacuating the demonstrators who climbed al-Nabi Samu'il hill north of Jerusalem last night. Our correspondent Gay Qotev reported that the evacuation took five minutes and no one was hurt.

**IDF Refrains From 'Forcibly Evacuating' Settlers**

TA0708182595 Jerusalem Israel Television Channel 1  
Network in Hebrew 1700 GMT 7 Aug 95

[Announcer-read report]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] has changed its policy regarding the settlers and is refraining from forcibly evacuating them from the hills they climb. Settlers were evacuated today without a struggle from al-Nabi Samu'il area and Mount Artis. Security sources told our correspondent that the soldiers would not clash with the settlers if the latter do not erect structures on the hills. [passage omitted]

**Security Services Thwart 48 'Terrorist' Attacks**

TA0708170995 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English  
1500 GMT 7 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Forty-eight terrorist attacks have been thwarted by Israel's General Security Services [GSS] since the suicide bomber blew up a bus in Tel Aviv's Dizengoff Street last year.

A report given to the Knesset committee which extended the permission given to the GSS to use physical pressure in its interrogations shows that eight suicide attacks were prevented, five bids to plant booby-trapped cars, one to hijack a bus, and 10 to kidnap soldiers and civilians. Permission to use physical pressure was given for another week, after which the committee will be reconvened to consider the prime minister's request for a three-month extension.

**Fatah, Peace Now To Cooperate on Campaign**

TA0608104595 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew  
6 Aug 95 p 3

[FBIS Translated Text] The Fatah and the Peace Now movements will cooperate in an information campaign to bolster support for the peace process among Palestinians and Israelis. This was decided yesterday at a meeting in Ramallah between the leaders of the Israeli movement and representatives of Fatah (the major group within the PLO).

The meeting was attended by Fatah members from Nabulus, Hebron, and Tulkarm. Officials from FIDA [Palestinian Democratic Union Party], which is part of the Palestinian Authority, also took part.

The Palestinians criticized the "hesitancy" shown by Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin and Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres. The Peace Now members sharply criticized the people behind the Palestinian terrorist attacks, "which not only seriously harm the peace process but also undermine both sides' expectations."

Both the Palestinian and Israeli participants expressed concern over the erosion in public support for the peace process on both sides of the Green Line.

The parties agreed to launch an information campaign among Israelis and Palestinians and to hold meetings between people from both sides.

The information campaign will start at the beginning of August [as published]. It will include rallies, demonstrations, and public meetings in West Bank towns and in Israel. In the next few weeks, a joint Palestinian-Israeli team will conclude the preparations for the operation.

**Histadrut Sets Ethics Code for Party Primaries**

TA0708104995 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST  
in English 7 Aug 95 p 12

[Report by Michal Yudelman]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Histadrut officials wishing to run for their parties' primaries will have to resign more than three months before the elections and will be

forbidden to conduct any partisan or campaign activities during work time in the Histadrut.

These are some of the new regulations in a code of ethics now being formulated by the Histadrut to prevent candidates from using Histadrut facilities, resources, funds and time for their campaigns.

The new regulations are especially designed to avoid such cases of alleged corruption on the part of former senior Histadrut officials, as are now being investigated by the police. Those violating the rules will be placed on disciplinary trial and penalized.

In another development, Histadrut Chairman Hayim Ramon intends to slash the salaries received by the senior workers in the Histadrut's comptroller's office, whose wages are among the highest in the labor federation.

The wage slash will be implemented as part of the Histadrut's move to Jerusalem, scheduled for December 17. Apparently, the regulations allow wage reductions as part of overall reorganization measures taken in the framework of moving office, Histadrut sources revealed yesterday.

Senior officials in the comptroller's office receive more than 30,000 Israeli shekels in wages. The wages of the elected secretaries of labor councils are expected to be cut next.

Ramon has already reduced the wages of executive members, maintaining that they should not earn more than MK's [Knesset Members] and that those who are not section heads should earn a great deal less.

#### **Citizen Arrested on Suspicion of Spying for Libya**

*TA0808062195 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English*  
*0400 GMT 8 Aug 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] We begin with the story of the Israeli who is on trial for espionage. Our correspondent Alan Ben-'Ami provides the details that are known at this point:

[Begin Ben-'Ami recording] As with most spy stories, certainly at the beginning, there is very little we can tell. And indeed, the story first broke in an Arabic weekly, AL-WASAT, which is published in London. According to that paper, the man at the center of the case is Herzl Rad, a 39 year-old Israeli accused of spying for Libya. Rad is said to have been captured by the Mosad soon after he traveled from Austria to Turkey, and was then secretly flown to Israel on board an El Al plane. And all this, reports AL-WASAT, happened about two

months ago. Since then Rad is said to have been held in detention under an Israeli court order.

However, according to the information I have, Herzl Rad is a 31-year-old resident of Jerusalem arrested here on suspicion of espionage and of harming the security of the state. Rad, who is now on trial, is said to have denied the charges.

[Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 0500 GMT on 8 August adds: "The suspect is a clothing merchant of Iranian origin." "Security sources told our military affairs correspondent the report that Rad was kidnapped in Turkey is unfounded. They also denied that he has spied for Libya."] His case was first brought before the Jerusalem District Court six weeks ago, and Rad, who has a defense lawyer, is being held in isolation in jail while the trial takes place.

At present there are seven Israelis serving jail sentences after being found guilty of revealing secret information or engaging in espionage. Most were sent to prison for spying on behalf of the former Soviet Union. Cases of Israelis who spy for Arab countries or who have aided Palestinian terrorist groups are rare, but not unknown.

The two most prominent Israelis currently in jail are Mordekhay Vanunu, serving an 18 year sentence after revealing information on the Dimona nuclear plant, where he worked as a technician, to THE SUNDAY TIMES; and Professor Marcus Klingberg, former deputy director of the Biological Research Institute at Nes Ziyayona, who is serving a 20-year sentence for passing secrets to the Soviets.

As for the case of Herzl Rad, well we can expect to hear more on that affair in the coming days. [end recording]

#### **Hunter-E Drone Successfully Tested**

*TA0708104695 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST*  
*in English 7 Aug 95 p 3*

[ITIM report]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The successful half-hour maiden flight of the Hunter-E, an improved drone produced by Israel Aircraft Industries, took place recently. All flight systems functioned perfectly.

The Hunter-A, an earlier model of the drone used by the U.S. Army, can orbit a target for 8 hours at a height of 15,000 feet. The Hunter-E will be able to orbit for 25 hours at 20,000 feet. It also has a flight weight, including fuel, of 950 kg., as opposed to 720 kg. for the earlier model.

**Columnist Supports Hamas Attacks Against U.S.**

JN0708115695 Amman AL-MAJD in Arabic  
7 Aug 95 p 12

["On the Banks of Al-Majd" column by Fahd al-Rimawi: "Hamas Prepares to Lead the Arab Masses"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Those who know Dr. Musa Abu-Marzuq [head of the Hamas political bureau] as I know him, and those who hold dialogue with him as I do, and joke with him as I have done, will realize that this Musa Abu-Marzuq is a serious and intelligent leader and a friendly, moderate, and ascetic person.

He has charisma and is anxious to seek common ground even with his most inveterate adversaries. He has an open mind and is receptive to new ideas and to learning lessons from life and its developments, but without giving up any of the national principles and Islamic constants.

His mild-tempered mien belies a strong character which seems to be molded in steel, is as pure as pearls, and is brimming with faith as if he was born during the era of the Orthodox Caliphs. But what one notices about him and his fellow comrades in the Hamas command is that they are optimistic during this decadent era and wish to offer sacrifices when others think in terms of losses and profits and live in an era of selfishness and the panting after fortune and personal gains.

He is a dreamer in an era of political pragmatism, a major struggler in the era of renunciation, apathy, and ingratitude. He is the staunchest advocate of Islamic action and fundamentalist activity at a time when the fiercest crusader and Zionist onslaught is being waged against Islam and the Muslims.

He is a new prototype of Palestinian leader. I met him more than once in Amman, Damascus, and Khartoum, during which I became more and more convinced that he has leadership qualities with idealistic dimensions. He avoids prattle, pedantry, and vaingloriousness and is ready to listen to others and to benefit from any sincere and profound viewpoint. He does not seek stardom or to hold much power in his hands but wants to establish a democratic leadership, pluralism in opinion and concepts, and to give chances to his other fellow colleagues in the Hamas command so that they may continue the journey after he disappears.

The Palestinian commando factions have suffered the most from the leadership monopolization phenomenon which produced leaders who ruled with absolute power over the faction's affairs, and who even entered into contradiction with their closest aides, took over all political, administrative, and financial powers in their hands, and stood in the way of the normal process of

transfer of power among the various echelons so that when they get old or die, the faction collapses and its militant impact vanishes.

I am fully convinced that the United States miscalculated and harmed itself when it arrested Abu-Marzuq. This is so because by taking this cowardly action, it has committed two strategic mistakes at the same time: The first is that it transferred the struggle to outside the occupied Palestinian homeland, and the second is that it directly entered the struggle against the Islamists and not through its agents as was the case in the past.

We noticed a long time ago that the U.S. Administration has placed itself and its resources in the service of Israel, both politically and economically. Undoubtedly, Abu-Marzuq's arrest means that that administration is now serving Israel in the security field directly and publicly. We thought that the United States had stopped such a thing since Hizballah's operation against the Marines in Lebanon in 1983.

The flimsy reactions to the arrest of Shaykh 'Umar 'Abd-al-Rahman and to the Serb atrocities against the Bosnian Muslims may have encouraged the U.S. Administration to arrest Abu-Marzuq and enter into a direct confrontation against the Islamic movements. The fate of Abu-Marzuq — be it release, continued detention, or extradition to Israel — will be determined, not on the basis of the principles and laws, but on the basis of the Arab and Muslim reactions and their future consequences and results.

The arrest of Abu-Marzuq is a considerable U.S. step and a big test balloon to measure the reaction of the Islamic and rejectionist Palestinian forces. Such a step will determine action in the future — either positive or negative action.

Therefore, the U.S. Administration must be made to understand that the extradition of Abu-Marzuq to Israel is a "red line" after which Hamas and its allies can start to strike at the U.S. interests, resume foreign operations, increase chaos in the world, disrupt the peace process, and escalate the jihad and martyrdom operations against the Israeli enemy, and not the opposite.

General Aidid was able to expel the U.S. Army from Somalia after the murder of six soldiers. The United States' ability to stand violent and painful blows is less than that of Israel. It is now entering the stage of preparing for the presidential elections, which is witnessing a fierce competition between the Republican and Democratic parties to attract U.S. public opinion.

He who knows Hamas from within as much as I know it will not doubt for a moment its determination and ability to strike at U.S. interests as soon as its leader is



handed over to the Israeli enemy. He also knows that the young and clever movement is not "engineered" to lead the Palestinian masses only, but also the Arab masses through its intricate alliances, on both the Arab and Islamic levels and on the official and popular levels. Its initiative to start the phase of confrontation against the U.S. enemy may give it the historic opportunity which it has been waiting for to instigate the Arab masses and assume, with others, the task of filling the leadership vacuum.

It has been said once that what is harmful may turn out to be useful.

**Parties Say Abu-Marzuq Arrest Shows U.S. Bias**  
*JN0608133795 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English*  
*6 Aug 95 p 3*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Amman (PETRA)—Jordan's opposition parties Saturday [5 August] voiced their condemnation of the arrest in the United States of Musa Abu-Marzuq, head of the political wing of the militant Islamic group, Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement], and demanded his immediate release.

A statement, a copy of which was made available to the JORDAN TIMES, charged that Abu-Marzuq's arrest was part of a plot planned and carried out by American security authorities with Israeli occupation authorities under the pretext of fighting terrorism.

The statement said that the arrest reaffirms Washington's continued favourable bias towards the Zionist entity, America's hostile attitude towards Arab and Islamic nations and their support of Zionist aggression on Palestinian people and their occupation of Arab Palestine.

This hostile action against Palestinians, asserts once again the American administration's total disregard for the freedom of other nations and Washington's determination to deprive them of their legitimate rights, the statement said.

The statement also said that the American administration is making a mockery of international law for the purpose of currying favour with Zionist organisations which continue to control American policies in matters connected to the Arab-Zionist conflict and the issues of the Arab nation.

The arrest of Abu-Marzuq is bound to inflame the feelings of Arabs and Muslims and would incite angry reactions against the United States, the statement warned.

Abu-Marzuq was detained 10 days ago by immigration officials in New York. Israel issued a warrant for his arrest and said it would seek his extradition.

The statement said that the undersigned appeal to all humanitarian organisations which defend human rights, all political parties, associations and various organisations around the world to ensure the immediate release of Abu Marzuq and help stop his extradition to Israel.

The leader's arrest and extradition to the occupation authorities, the statement continued, would result in further instability that would not be confined to the Palestinian arena but would extend to the Arab and international spheres.

It said that a just, durable and comprehensive peace in the region can never be established by depriving its peoples of their rights, and that neither can it survive by arresting freedom fighters in a legitimate struggle for freedom and accusing them of acts of terrorism.

The statement called for the establishment of peace by butting an end to the occupation of Arab lands and the restoration of all the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

The statement was signed by the following parties:

The Islamic Action Front, the National Action Front, the Jordanian Democratic People's Party, the Democratic Arab Party, the Progressive Arab Ba'th Party, the Constitutional Arab Jordanian Front, the Jordanian Socialist Arab Ba'th Party, the Jordanian Communist Party, the Jordanian Democratic People's Unionist Party and the Jordanian Democratic Progressive Party.

**Papers Criticize Israeli Court Ruling on Mosque**  
*JN0808073895*

[FBIS Editorial Report] Amman's three Arabic-language daily newspapers on 8 August carry editorials on the Israeli Supreme Court ruling that allows members of the Jewish orthodox group Temple Mount Faithful to enter al-Aqsa Mosque and the statements made by the Jordanian prime minister at a Jordanian senate session on 7 August in which he voiced Jordan's opposition to the Israeli court ruling.

In an approximately 500-word page 1 editorial entitled "A Null Decision Based on Wrong," AL-RA'Y says: "Al-Sharif Zayd has reaffirmed the Jordanian position on holy Jerusalem as an occupied Arab territory. His excellency also stressed that Jordan is eager to provide every possible support to preserve the Islamic sacred places and protect their sanctity and existence. This position represents a Jordanian national unanimity and reflects the deep feelings of our people."

The editorial also adds: "The Israeli occupation will be making a very big mistake, which will inflict

grave damage on the peace process if it misreads this Jordanian position on Jerusalem and our sacred places there. The Israeli occupation will also be making a mistake if it thinks that it can hide behind the Jordanian-Israeli treaty, the Oslo Agreement, or the peace treaty with Egypt to continue to create new facts on the ground in Jerusalem in order to Judaize it. The occupation must not misinterpret the sincerity of the Jordanian keenness on peace and the seriousness of the Arab efforts to achieve peace."

Concluding, AL-RA'Y says that the Israeli Supreme Court's ruling is as "null and void" as "all the decisions made by the occupation authorities, particularly as regards Jerusalem. This is because the Israeli occupation is wrong, and anything that is based on wrong is wrong."

In an approximately 400-word page 1 editorial entitled "Toward a Unified Arab Position To Defend al-Aqsa Mosque," AL-DUSTUR says: "Jordan did not only announce its condemnation and denouncement of this serious Israeli provocative position. It called on the Israeli Government to respect the pledge stipulated in Article Nine of the peace treaty. Jordan is also preparing to call on the Arab brothers to formulate a unified position to confront the threats facing Jerusalem and al-Aqsa Mosque in particular."

The editorial also adds: "With this distinguished position and special initiative toward occupied Arab Jerusalem, Jordan stresses that the peace treaty it signed with Israel does not, and should not, stop it from taking any measure to support legitimate Palestinian rights, protect Jerusalem, and open the doors wide for a coordinated Arab action to defend the first qiblah and the third holiest mosque."

AL-DUSTUR then points out: "We believe the government's position, expressed yesterday through the prime minister, is practical evidence of the deep sense of pan-Arab responsibility toward holy Jerusalem and a great diplomatic lesson on how to employ the peace treaty against the trends of evil, expansionism, and aggression championed by a big segment of Israeli society. We demand, once again, that the Israeli Government respect its declared commitments and stop the settlers' growing effort to poison the atmosphere in the region, foment animosity, and sabotage the stumbling peace process."

In an approximately 400-word editorial entitled "An Initiative To Protect al-Aqsa Mosque and the Requirements To Close Ranks," published on page 17, AL-ASWAQ says: "The current moves to confront the Israeli decision, which illegally encroaches on the sacred places, violates all norms and laws, and disrupts the climate of peace, should escalate in all directions. Jordanian—Palestinian, as well as inter-Arab coordination must be

strengthened to remove the consequences of this new aggression and support every measure aimed at regaining legitimate Palestinian national rights."

#### **Contacts To 'Protect' Jerusalem Mosque Reported**

JN0708125695 Amman AL-ASWAQ in Arabic  
7 Aug 95 p 1

[Report by Nabil Ghishan]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Intensive Jordanian moves were made over the last 24 hours to protect the blessed al-Aqsa Mosque in the wake of an Israeli decision to allow the so-called Temple Mount Faithful to enter the holy mosque and pray there.

A high-ranking government official told AL-ASWAQ that Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat called Prime Minister al-Sharif Zayd Bin-Shakir asking for Jordan's intervention to stop the settlers' aggressions in the city of Jerusalem. Faysal al-Husayni, official in charge of the Jerusalem file, also called Foreign Minister 'Abd-al-Karim al-Kabariti twice yesterday.

Al-Kabariti, who contacted the Israeli ambassador in Amman, told AL-ASWAQ: I emphasized to the Israeli ambassador that aggressions and encroachments by settlers and members of the Temple Mount Faithful should prompt a firm and immediate action by the Israeli Government so that their actions will not aggravate and reflect negatively on the peace process. The foreign minister said the seriousness of these encroachments lies in the fact that they coincide with the Palestinian-Israeli negotiations, which began to make some progress. Al-Kabariti, who feared that such actions might sabotage the progress made, added that the Israeli forces opposed to peace are apparently manipulating the Zionist settlement movement to incite the public against the peace process.

AL-ASWAQ has learned that the Jordanian ambassador in Tel Aviv yesterday contacted the Israeli Government and conveyed to it the Jordanian position on this affair. [passage omitted]

#### **Congressman's Call To End Import of Oil Decried**

JN0708144495 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 7 Aug 95  
p 22

["Headlines" column by Dr. Fahd al-Fanik: "The Congress and Jordan's Interests"]

[FBIS Translated Text] We thought that the endeavor by some pro-Zionist U.S. representatives to inflict economic harm on Jordan was aimed at pressuring it to make progress in the peace process with Israel. Such an endeavor, however, has seemingly become a

habit which has not stopped even after the Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty has been realized. What do these representatives want? For how long will they continue to threaten Jordan's vital interetes?

In a U.S. House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee hearing on 2 August 1995, attended by Robert Pelletreau, the U.S. assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs, Representative Hamilton raised the issue of Jordan's oil imports from Iraq at special prices. He considered such an arrangement a violation of the economic embargo imposed by the UN Security Council against Iraq. He demanded that such a practice be stopped and that oil should be imported from the Gulf states.

The respectable U.S. representative should know that Saudi Arabia, the only Arab country that can supply Jordan with oil, stopped oil supplies and has closed the Tapline pipeline since the autumn of 1990, thus leaving Iraq as the only possible supplier, especially since the port of al-'Aqabah is not equipped with the necessary oil unloading and storage facilities.

What is even more important is the fact that the representative, who seems to be very keen on implementing UN Security Council resolutions, does not know that the sanctions committee gave Jordan permission to import Iraqi oil because it recognizes Jordan's circumstances and because it is unable to compensate Jordan, in accordance with Article 50 of the UN Charter, for the damage brought against it by the sanctions.

It may be useful to tell the U.S. Representative that a move by Jordan to stop importing the insignificant quantity of Iraqi oil it receives from Iraq will not affect Iraq, which is not receiving any money in return, but is instead using the income generated from this low price to repay its debts to Jordan. Such a move, however, will deal a fatal blow to the Jordanian economy.

Stopping imports of Iraqi oil will mean reducing Jordan's exports by 10 percent. This figure represents the value of food and medicine which Iraq is importing from Jordan according to official permits issued by the UN Security Council Sanctions Committee. Unless Saudi oil is given to Jordan for free, we will have to find \$500 million a year to pay for oil at international prices. Such

an amount will break the back of the Jordanian economy and invalidate the economic adjustment program.

After all, is the United States Jordan's friend or foe?

#### **Six Peacekeepers Reported Injured in Croatia**

*JN0708200195 Amman Jordan Television Network in English 1900 GMT 7 Aug 95*

[From the "News at Ten" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Five Jordanian soldiers and one officer serving under the UN Protection Force in Croatia were wounded in crossfire between the Croatian army and rebel Krajina Serbs.

An official statement by the Jordanian Armed Forces said the six injured men left hospital after being treated for minor injuries. The statement said the men are now in good condition. Three military vehicles were also destroyed in the crossfire.

The six officers belong to the Jordanian Second Battalion serving in Croatia.

#### **King Receives Yeltsin Letter on Bosnian Crisis**

*JN0708191595 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 7 Aug 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] His Majesty King Husayn has received a letter from His Excellency President Boris Yeltsin, president of the Russian Federation. Yeltsin explained his country's position, which advocates finding an appropriate solution to the exploding situation in the former Yugoslavia. He noted that Russia does not view the conflict there through a religious perspective. He expressed hope that His Majesty King Husayn will personally stand — with all the influence his majesty enjoys — in favor of working out a political solution to the situation in Bosnia.

He stressed the need for all conflicting parties to sit at the negotiating table to end this conflict. He also said that during the Russian leadership's meeting with the Organization of Islamic Conference delegation, it was clear that his country shares common ground with the Islamic world in wanting to see a political solution to the Bosnian crisis.

**Abu-Marzuq Arrest Protested Through Proposals**

NC0808070795 *Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed*  
in Arabic 0530 GMT 8 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The Lebanese and Palestinian Islamic and national parties and forces held a meeting in al-Musaytibah in Beirut yesterday to discuss the aggressive U.S. step represented by the arrest of Dr. Musa Abu-Marzuq, head of the political bureau of Hamas, the Islamic Resistance Movement.

The conferees considered the step proof of the U.S. terrorist role, the depth of U.S. hostility to the Arab and Islamic nation's issues, and U.S. support for the Zionist entity's plans and goals. The conferees called for the unconditional and immediate release of Dr. Abu-Marzuq. They also called for the broadest moves to show solidarity with him.

The conferees unanimously approved the proposals by 'Ammar al-Musawi, a member of the Hizballah political bureau. The proposals are as follows:

[Begin al-Musawi recording] The first step is to hold a broad solidarity meeting by parliamentary, party, and religious figures. This solidarity meeting should be as big as possible to show that the issue is not one of Hamas or a particular group, but is an issue of Arab and Islamic grievances against U.S. arrogance and U.S.-Zionist collusion.

The second step is to form a small follow-up committee tasked with visiting political and religious figures to raise this issue. There is no objection if this committee visits foreign missions or embassies that sympathize [with the Palestinian cause] or are, at least, neutral over the conflict with Israel. As for the missions and embassies that are clearly hostile to our nation, I believe it is pointless to visit them. Perhaps such visits could harm our moves. [end recording]



**Radio Discusses Israel's 'Impossible Demands'**

JN0708155295 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio  
Network in Arabic 1132 GMT 7 Aug 95

[Station commentary]

[FBIS Translated Text] Gentlemen: Israel has continued to evade the requirements of a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East, and to place more obstacles before the Syrian track, taking into consideration that it is the most important track without which the aspired peace cannot be achieved in the region. As usual, Israel claims that Syria does not respond to its security demands. These demands entrench Israel's occupation of part of the Golan and violate Syria's sovereignty over its territory. No country which is proud of its freedom and independence can respond to such demands. How can Syria, which has made it a point to restore all its territory and which holds freedom and independence sacred, submit to such impossible demands.

It is clear to the simplest observer that Israel's rulers have not yet relinquished the plans of hegemony, aggression, expansion, and occupation; and that they view the entire peace process from a narrow angle which conflicts with the UN Security Council resolutions, the Madrid conference bases, and the pillars of a just peace. Syria has proposed full peace for full withdrawal, and agreed to equitable [mutakafi'ah] and even [muta'adilah] security arrangements on both sides of the 4 June 1967 lines. Regardless of the fact that Syrian territory is occupied, and that Israel has always been the first to carry out aggression, Syria did not set security conditions which would give it special gains. This is despite the fact that the Israeli war arsenal is full of all kinds of traditional and other weapons. All that Syria has called for is Israel's full withdrawal to the 4 June 1967 lines in implementation of UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, and equitable arrangements which do not undermine sovereignty and eliminate all traces of occupation.

Syria's demands are not only correct, they are at the heart of the international community's demands. However, Israel's impossible conditions constitute an entrenchment of occupation and an embodiment of the spirit of aggression for which it has always been known. Since Syria refuses to submit to aggression and occupation, Israel has evaded the two ambassadors' talks in Washington, aborted efforts to reactivate these talks, and insisted on military talks to discuss its security demands and impossible conditions. It is known that Syria has never submitted to blackmail, and certainly, it will not submit to blackmail now or in the future. President al-Asad has repeatedly said that peace is Syria's strategic option, and that Syria is ready to meet

the requirements of a just peace in the region. However, Israel, as it appears to all sides, has not relinquished the option of aggression, occupation, and hegemony. It adheres to the establishment of a ground warning station in the Golan. Syria believes that occupation is occupation whether it is part of or all the Golan. The occupation of part of or all the Golan conflicts with the pillars of a just peace and the UN Security Council resolutions, and proves that Israel has not changed and that its aggressive nature remains the same. This makes Syria seriously wonder about Israel's intentions and future plans.

Syria's current stand is the same as it was in the past. It is the stand that it explained to the U.S. Administration before the convening of the Madrid conference. This stand rejects the Israeli occupation in all its forms and adheres to Israel's full withdrawal to the 4 June 1967 lines. This stand is not new, as Israel claims, nor does it constitute a disavowal, as its rulers claim. Syria is for an honorable and just peace, and against occupation, hegemony, and security imbalance [al-ikhlaal al-amni].

**Israel's Rejection of Ambassador-Level Talks Seen**

JN0708104995 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio  
Network in Arabic 0445 GMT 7 Aug 95

[From the press review]

[FBIS Translated Text] In its editorial today, AL-BA'TH discusses Israel's positions which obstruct the peace efforts, noting Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin's rejection of the U.S. sponsor's proposal to hold a meeting between the Syrian and Israeli ambassadors in Washington. Rabin has even said that his government still has some time to spare and added that it is difficult to achieve any progress on the Syrian track before the forthcoming Israeli elections.

AL-BA'TH wonders: What does this mean? Does it not mean that Israel has not yet taken any serious decision regarding the Syrian track? Does this position not mean that Rabin's government is prepared to fabricate one obstacle after the other to keep the status quo, as long as Israel has not been able to achieve what it seeks on the Syrian track.

The paper says: Thus, the problem is not with Syria, as Israel claims. Everybody, specifically the U.S. cosponsor, knows that Syria has offered all it can to boost the peace process.

The paper adds: After everything it has done against the peace process, Israel is trying to blame Syria for the failure to achieve any progress. Such an attitude is rejected because the entire world knows that Syria is very keen on making the peace process arrive at its

desired objective. For that sake, Syria took a strategic decision to make peace on the basis of the resolutions of international legitimacy and the land-for-peace formula. Israel is still evading such a decision. It has been proved that Israel wants a peace of its own design which would allow it to achieve everything without giving anything in return. This, of course, is rejected by Syria because Syria believes that a just and comprehensive peace is a basis for the peace process and any departure from this principle will be directed against the peace process.

AL-BA'TH concludes by saying: Rabin's recent positions are part of the endeavor to place obstacles and hurdles on the path of the peace process. Such a position aims at obstructing any endeavor to establish a just and comprehensive peace.

#### **TISHRIN Calls Israeli Settlers 'Suspect'**

*JN0708110095 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0446 GMT 7 Aug 95*

[From the press review]

[FBIS Translated Text] TISHRIN discusses the Israeli settlers' provocative acts in the occupied Arab territories. The paper stresses that all the reports coming from the occupied Arab territories confirm that the Rabin government has never abandoned the policy of encouraging settlement activities. It has spent several million dollars on the settlers to expand their settlements, seize more Arab lands, and impose a fait accompli.

The paper wonders: Is this alleged dispute between the settlers and the Rabin government true or is it

merely theatrical, designed to deceive the Palestinians and world public opinion?

The paper says: The first fact which no one can deny is that the Oslo agreement, despite the great injustice it has done to the Palestinians, was not applied on the ground. Israel refuses to redeploy its troops or hold Palestinian elections before it guarantees full control over the security, sovereignty, and water issues. The second fact is that the Rabin government did not dismantle a single settlement in the West Bank. Instead, it expanded them. Moreover, not a single settlement was dismantled in Gaza. Settlers are still enjoying the protection of the Israeli army and Rabin's government is massing great number of troops to protect settlements in Gaza.

The paper adds: The third fact is that the Rabin government did not abide by the principles of the peace process or the UN resolutions on the Palestinian track, or on the Syria and Lebanese tracks. On all tracks, the peace process is being deflected from its course and objectives under the excuse of security and security pretexts. Israel is trying to establish the reality of occupation and win a recognition of its occupation. This position essentially contradicts the peace process and its substance and basic elements.

TISHRIN concludes: All these facts lead to the conclusion that the settlers' actions and provocations are part of a suspect scheme to deceive the world public opinion into believing that the Israeli Government wishes to achieve peace.

## Afghanistan

### Pakistan Minister Meets With Military Official

BK0708133095 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Overseas  
Service in English 0800 GMT 7 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The foreign minister, Sardar Asif Ahmad Ali, has arrived in the Afghan city of Herat. Later, he held talks with General Isma'il Khan on developments in Afghanistan. The foreign minister said that Pakistan supports the integrity and independence of Afghanistan and will do everything within its means to help it. He said Pakistan has the welfare of the Afghan people at heart and he has brought a message of peace and goodwill from the government and the people of Pakistan for them. He briefed General Isma'il Khan about Pak-Uzbek and Pak-Turkmenistan interest in the gas pipeline, railway line, and the reconstruction of roads in order to establish links between Pakistan and Central Asia through Afghanistan.

General Isma'il Khan expressed Afghan government's keen desire for early initiation of these projects which would boost the economic conditions in Afghanistan. He also expressed gratitude for the support extended by Pakistan during the jihad which had culminated in the restoration of Afghan freedom.

### Meets With Rashid Dostam

BK0708153695 Islamabad PTV Television Network  
in English 1300 GMT 7 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Foreign Minister Sardar Asif Ahmad Ali had a meeting with the leader of the National Islamic Movement of Afghanistan, General Rashid Dostam, at Sheberghan in Afghanistan today. Pakistan Television representative Muzammil Ahmad Khan reports from Sheberghan that during the meeting they discussed the setting up of a broad-based government to restore peace in Afghanistan. The UN formula also came up for discussion.

Sardar Asif Ahmad Ali, who is currently on a six-day visit to Afghanistan, also held talks with members of the Taleban Shura [council] in Qandahar yesterday. Sardar Asif Ahmad Ali discussed a number of proposals with the naib amir [deputy leader] of the Taleban, Mulla Mohammad Rabbani. The foreign minister is meeting with various Afghan leaders to discuss the key issue of restoring peace in the war-torn Afghanistan.

And in Herat, the foreign minister held discussions with the leader of Jam'iyat-e Eslami [Islamic Society], General Isma'il, during the meeting. During the meeting, General Isma'il thanked Pakistan for its full support during the Afghan jihad. The foreign minister told General Isma'il that Pakistan wants a durable peace in

Afghanistan. The Government of Pakistan, he added, wants that all the mojahedin groups should agree to a peace formula to start reconstruction in that country.

### HCC Forces Bomb Government Positions in Herat

LD0408214195 (Clandestine) Radio Message of  
Freedom in Pashto  
to Afghanistan 0730 GMT 4 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] High Coordination Council [HCC] aircraft yesterday bombed various areas under the control of the coalition administration in Herat Province.

A responsible Hezb-e Eslami [Islamic Party] source in Herat Province reported to our correspondent that yesterday the HCC air force bombed various areas under the control of the coalition government in Herat Province. Heavy loss of life and material was sustained by the coalition forces.

According to another report, an HCC mopping-up operation is continuing in Qal'eh-ye Now, capital of Badghis Province, and in the Khosrow area of Ghowr Province. The report adds that the security belt around Qal'eh-ye Now has been broken, and a large number of weapons and ammunition have been seized by the HCC forces.

The report adds that Qal'eh-ye Now is under siege by HCC forces. No report on losses is as yet available.

### Bombs Government Positions in Salang

LD0408213795 (Clandestine) Radio Message of  
Freedom in Pashto  
to Afghanistan 0730 GMT 4 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The High Coordination Council [HCC] aircraft bombarded the positions of the coalition administration in north Salang.

According to news agencies, the HCC's mopping-up operation in the country's northern regions is continuing. The HCC aircraft yesterday attacked the positions of the Kabul coalition administration in the north of Salang. As a result of this attack, several strong positions and heavy weapons belonging to the enemy were eliminated and a number of their men were either killed or injured.

According to another report, the courageous air forces of the HCC have bombarded the positions of the coalition administration around Bamian Province. The report adds that HCC forces have captured four of the coalition government's important and strategic positions in Bamian Province. The report also adds that the enemy have lost their morale and are fleeing the battlefield.

**Government Forces Reportedly Repel Militia Attack***LD0408192595 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Dari 1600 GMT 4 Aug 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] A militia attack was repulsed yesterday in Qal'eh-ye Sarkari district and their supply route to Yaklang district was cut off.

A responsible security source reports to BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY that yesterday the militiamen launched an unsuccessful attack on the positions of the Islamic Army. The militiamen were confronted with solid resistance and were forced to retreat. In the course of a counterattack, the forces of the Islamic Army have cleared the villages of (Dahan-e Tura), Qalah-ye Baqi and the surrounding areas of the militiamen and have cut off their supply route to Yaklang district.

The source added that during the mopping-up operation, eight militiamen were killed, six were injured and another four were captured alive.

**Islamic Army Forces Clear Positions From Militia***LD0708183495 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 7 Aug 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] The Islamic army forces cleared more areas and positions from the dirt of the militia in Dara-e Suf. A source of the armed forces told the BAKHTAR that in operations conducted in coordination with other mojahedin, the Islamic army forces, this morning completely captured Shamsheer Band mountain and five important position on it, Dara-e Nafi mountain, [words indistinct] and the Zol Qariadar position. During the operation, 12 militia including commander Jalil were killed and 17 others taken prisoner. A large quantity of light and heavy weapons along with their ammunition have also been captured.

According to another report, an attack by the Dostam militia in Salang was aborted today. The Islamic army forces killed 10 of the militia and took three others prisoners.

**India****Troops Said 'Unable To Find' Location of Hostages***BK0708134495 Hong Kong AFP in English 1335 GMT 7 Aug 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] New Delhi, Aug 7 (AFP) — The Indian Government has no clue as to the whereabouts of five Western tourists abducted by Muslim guerrillas in the strife-torn northern state of Kashmir, a minister said Monday [7 August].

"We are unable to find out their location although the security machinery is closely monitoring the movements (of militants)," the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA quoted Minister of State for Internal Security Rajesh Pilot as saying.

"As soon as we get their location, rescue operations will be launched," Pilot told reporters in the central Indian city of Bhopal.

The Al-Faran militant group is holding two Britons, an American, a German and a Norwegian and demanding the release of 15 jailed colleagues. New Delhi has refused to free any prisoners.

Britons Paul Wells and Keith Mangan and American Donald Hutchings were abducted in Kashmir's mountainous district of Pahalgam on July 4. German Dirk Hasert and Norwegian Hans Ostro were seized separately four days later.

Al-Faran said Saturday that three of the hostages were seriously ill and warned they may die.

It said Hutchings and Mangan were injured a gunbattle when Indian troops stormed a hideout last month in an attempt to rescue the Western tourists. Indian authorities have denied the fighting took place.

Al-Faran said the German was also ill, and the three had stopped eating. The group released colour pictures of Mangan and Hutchings over the weekend in which they were shown lying down and wrapped in bandages.

Al-Faran had originally asked for the release of 21 jailed Muslim militants in exchange for the kidnapped Westerners but scaled down the number to 15 Saturday.

More than 12,000 people have died since 1989 in a Muslim separatist campaign in Kashmir, India's only Muslim-majority state. India accuses Pakistan of arming and training the rebels. Islamabad denies the charge.

**U.S. Arms Aid to Pakistan Seen as 'Unfriendly'***BK0308131995 Delhi All India Radio General Overseas Service in English 1010 GMT 3 Aug 95*

[Commentary by M.K. Dhar]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The proposed United States' arms transfers to Pakistan under a one-time waiver of the Pressler law has caused India dismay as well as concern. Given the history of arms supplies to Pakistan over the decades, its acquisition of near-lethal military hardware poses a threat to India's security and South Asian stability. It will alter the strategic balance in Pakistan's favor despite denials by the U.S. and force India to divert scarce resources from development to defense. India has been trying to make



do without increasing its defense expenditure in real terms compared to last year, but it cannot take chances with its security and circumstances may force it to make a matching response to the new threat perception.

Going by the details given to U.S. Congressmen during briefing sessions, the non-F-16 package is indeed awesome and lethal. It includes P-3C Orion long-range reconnaissance and attack aircraft for the Pakistan Navy, equipment to modify the existing F-16's — Pakistan has missiles for these aircraft — Harpoon missiles, radars for 155-mm howitzers, sidewinder missiles, forward areas refueling equipment, in addition to other assorted items. Almost all the items are India-specific and the whole of the Indian peninsula comes within a range of the P-3C Orions which have considerable antisubmarine potentials. One must bear in mind that Pakistan received billions of dollars worth of equipment from the United States during the war in Afghanistan, which though meant to be transferred to the mujahedin, was instead appropriated by Islamabad. Washington has been desperately trying to retrieve some of the hundreds of Stinger ground-to-air missiles, for which it has offered handsome rewards but has failed to recover any. Most of them, as other sophisticated equipment supplied by the U.S., have been appropriated by the Pakistan Army. The Orion aircraft gives Islamabad a force projection that will make India's naval assets vulnerable right up to Cochin. Upgrading the engines of the existing F-16's and other improvements will further increase its strike potential. These aircraft have been modified to carry nuclear weapons which Pakistan possesses. As Senator Pressler who is waging a running battle against supply of military hardware to Pakistan puts it, the Clinton administration is seeking to undermine the goals of nuclear nonproliferation and regional stability in South Asia. Improving Pakistan's nuclear delivery capability would be seen as certification and acceptance of it as a full-fledged nuclear power.

The Clinton administration's move has caused anxiety also among several other countries in the region. Pakistan's characterization of itself as the frontline state against Islamic fundamentalism and its volunteering to act as instrument of U.S. policy in West and Central Asia have raised many eyebrows in the region. Pakistan has offered to render a wide range of services to the U.S. in the region and the arms package is the price it has sought. The proposal perhaps hides more than it reveals. Even the U.S. Congress has not been given the full list of the equipment that will go to Pakistan for services rendered. Despite U.S. denials, the military relationship between Washington and Islamabad, which has a strong element of arms aid, is being revived with

the inevitable consequence of heightening tension in the region.

Ever since Prime Minister Mr. P.V. Narasimha Rao's U.S. visit, the two countries have built up a burgeoning relationship in economic and other spheres, but arms transfer to Pakistan is bound to cast a shadow on this relationship because India will treat it as an unfriendly act. India has conveyed its concern to the U.S. over the move through various channels, pointing to the perils of encouraging Pakistan in its hostility toward India and sponsorship of terrorism against the country. Massive arms aid has only contributed to political instability in Pakistan and escalated tension in the subcontinent in the past, and it can lead to the same direction once again if the U.S. fails to learn a lesson from the past experience.

#### Official Reaction to Cancellation of Enron Deal

##### BJP Rules Out Renegotiation

BK0508133095 *Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1230 GMT 5 Aug 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Bharatiya Janata Party [BJP] has ruled out renegotiation with Enron on the scrapped Dabhol power project at the moment. Addressing newsmen in New Delhi today, Mr. Advani called for a review of the national power policy in consultation with the state governments and political parties. He discounted the claim that cancellation of the agreement will in any way deter foreign investors. Mr. Advani clarified that his party is not against foreign direct investment in the power sector. Replying to queries, Mr. Advani ruled out that the cancellation of the Enron project will affect the Indo-U.S. relations. He said it is a dispute between a private company and the state government and not between Washington and New Delhi.

##### Enron Starts Arbitration Proceedings

BK0608151695 *Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 6 Aug 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The American power company, Enron, has initiated arbitration proceedings seeking that the Maharashtra government either honor its contractual obligations or alternatively pay damages to the Dabhol Power Company. In a press release in Bombay yesterday, the company announced that the arbitration proceedings have been started following the scrapping of the 2015-megawatt power project at Dabhol. Meanwhile, the Maharashtra government's Energy Department has confirmed that it is in receipt of the arbitration notice. A government spokesman said that the state government will finalize its counter move after studying the details of the notice.

The union industry minister, Mr. K. Karunakaran, has said that the center will not allow its liberalization policy to be defeated. He was reacting to the Maharashtra government's decision to scrap the controversial Enron power project. He told newsmen at Thiruvananthapuram that the creation of an impression that there is no security for foreign investments in India will prove detrimental to the interests of the country. Mr. Karunakaran said the flow of foreign investment under the liberalization policy should not be allowed to decrease under any circumstances.

The former president, Mr. R. Venkataraman, has questioned the principle behind insuring guaranteed return on equity investment on the Enron Dabhol power project. He was presiding over the valedictory function of the golden jubilee celebrations of the Tamil Chamber of Commerce in Madras yesterday. Mr. Venkataraman cautioned that if such protection and guarantees become the norm, the country's economy will collapse. He, however, added that he was only referring to the principle and not the merits of the case.

#### **Power Company Ordered To Stop Work**

*BK0808003895 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English 1430 GMT 7 Aug 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The union power minister, Mr. N.K.P. Salve, today charged the Maharashtra government of not providing the Munde committee report on the now-canceled Enron power project to the center despite repeated requests for it. Mr. Salve said this in the Rajya Sabha when the opposition sought clarifications on his suo moto statement on the Enron issue on Friday [4 August]. The opposition members said that the minister was trying to scuttle the discussion by blaming the Maharashtra government. Mr. Salve said it is not his intention to gag anybody.

The Dabhol Power Company, the DPC, was today served the formal order to stop work on the 9,000-crore-rupee 215-megawatt Enron power project with immediate effect following the Maharashtra government's decision to scrap the project. A spokesman of the DPC when contacted said the company will examine the future steps.

#### **Enron Move To Possibly Impact Foreign Investment**

*BK0608150695 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English 1430 GMT 6 Aug 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The finance minister says scrapping of the Enron power deal by the Maharashtra government may affect foreign investment in the country. Speaking to newsmen in Ranchi today, Dr. Manmo-

han Singh expressed the hope that the state government would review its decision.

#### **Minister Rejects Corruption Charges on Enron Deal**

*BK0808005395 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 7 Aug 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The power minister, Mr. N.K.P. Salve, has said that there is no evidence whatsoever to substantiate charges of corruption in the Enron power project. He expressed readiness to get the entire accounts of the project examined by financial experts. Mr. Salve was replying to clarifications sought by members in the Rajya Sabha today. The minister, however, did not agree to an opposition demand for a parliamentary committee to go into the issue. The power minister said the Maharashtra government should have asked the review committee to inquire into the veracity of the corruption charges. He denied that there was any undue haste in finalizing the contract with Enron. He said there was no basis for the allegation that the capital cost of the Dabhol project is unrealistic.

#### **Article Views Enron Deal Impact on Congress**

*BK0408090795 Delhi THE PIONEER in English 3 Aug 95 p 8*

[Article by Nikhil Chakravarty: "No-win situation for the Congress in the coming poll"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Whatever the astrologers and soothsayers may say, there is little doubt that the morale of the Congress leadership is at the moment depressingly low.

This was evident at the lavishly arranged and widely publicised Surajkund camp, where the Prime Minister and some of his ministerial colleagues made brave efforts to whip up the drooping morale of the middle level leadership but with very little effect. Mr PV Narasimha Rao's opening speech, with its candid refrain that the party had lost touch with the masses, could hardly set the tone for the subsequent deliberations which petered out into usual electioneering polemics, while the camp itself seemed haunted by the spectre of the tandoori murder case [in which a former Youth Congress official is accused of murdering his wife].

Then came the Prime Minister's broadcast to the nation which had nothing inspiring to offer: He reeled off some relief measures for which he himself need not have droned before the television. The list of measures could have been announced with better effect before Parliament which opened the very next day. This could

neither inspire the nation nor galvanise the ranks of his own party for the coming polls.

What is worth noting is that all the measures announced — estimated to cost Rs [rupees] 4,000 crore to the exchequer — would take months before their effect percolates down to the impoverished sections. The mid-day school meal, for instance, would take months before its benefit would be felt and talked about by the public, but by then the general election would have come and gone.

It would be relevant to link this sudden announcement of measures, which are in the nature of what has come to be called the antipoverty programme, with the forbidding revelations of the Planning Commission's midterm appraisal of the Eighth Five Year Plan, which have shown that under the current dispensation the level of poverty has been going up, the employment potentials have been shrinking, the social sectors have been starved of resources, while the cost of living has gone up. And the public sector, even its profit-making units, are being dismantled. These uncomfortable disclosures were at first sought to be stifled by the desperate but absurd move to withdraw the report from even Government departments, though the burden of its message — that the current Manmohan Singh-led economic reforms are pro-rich and anti poor — has already been felt by the public, the heavy propaganda blitz on the part of the Government notwithstanding.

#### Congress indicted

In the midst of it all has emerged the phantom of the Enron deal. The Review Committee set up by the present Maharashtra Government run by the BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] and the Shiv Sena, presided over by the Deputy Chief Minister, has asked for the wholesale rejection of the deal and the scrapping of the project. It has made it clear that the termination of the contract with Enron will attract no claim for compensation as it has practised deception and made false representation and withheld vital facts. According to the committee's calculation, the continuation of the deal would entail an estimated loss of Rs 24,000 crore. The fact that the previous Congress Government resorted to private negotiation on a one-to-one basis with Enron without going in for competitive bidding has also come in for sharp criticism, and the suspicion of kickbacks is writ large all over the report. As it stands, the review report, when released, would serve as a serious indictment of the Congress, while the faction opposed to Mr Sharad Pawar in the Maharashtra Congress would point its finger against him in particular. The Narasimha Rao Government would also not have an easy time, as it has been guilty of not only backing

it but even of having offered guaranteed returns to the American multinational. The unkindest cut of all for the Manmohan Singh brigade — which had throughout pushed it with the Government — is that even the World Bank has not approved the exacting terms that Enron has managed to secure from the willing hands of the Congress Government.

When the new BJP-Shiv Sena Government reopened the entire question of the dubious deal there was a hue and cry from the leaders of the Congress that any tampering with the Enron deal would scare away other foreign investors and the country would be starved of foreign investments. The Commerce Minister, Mr P Chidambaram, went to the extent of delivering such dire warnings even from platforms abroad in the US. He is now found out of having once been in the Enron pay, though he says in his defence that it was.

In the public mind, however, the taint sticks on, as it did when Mr Chidambaram had to resign at the exposure of the stock exchange scam. Mr Sharad Pawar had come out in public with a detailed defence of the Enron deal, while the Power Minister, Mr NKP Salve, set out on a world tour to assure potential foreign investors not to be misled by the antics of the new non-Congress Government in Maharashtra. The charge all along has been that the reopening of the Enron deal would spoil all the good work done by the Congress Government to lure foreign investors.

#### The BJP's gambit

What the Congress leaders seemed to have missed, and thereby sought to mislead the public, is in the fact that the multinational giants are today in search of new pastures particularly with the end of the Cold War and the prospect of globalised trade war — both for market and investment. But our pundits in Government were shamelessly campaigning all the time against the Maharashtra Government's efforts at beating down the exorbitant terms that the Enron had extracted from the pliable Congress Government. It is in this background that the US Commerce Secretary, Mr Ron Brown, made it clear that though he supported the Enron deal, its reconsideration would not affect the present upbeat trend in the US investments in India. Soon after appeared Ms Rebecca Mark of the Enron, offering to re-negotiate the deal with a discount of Rs 900 crore to the Maharashtra Government, which is reported to be insisting on Rs 1,500 crore as the total discount on the present deal. As has been calculated by a perceptive observer, even if the re-negotiation fetches a gain of Rs 1,000 crore, it can pay for 1,200 schools, 500 colleges, 125 large hospitals, 40 primary health centres and free meals for 45 lakh school children for a year.



More serious for the Congress will be the political fallout of the Enron deal. Whatever the Maharashtra Government does — whether it scraps the report as per the Review Committee's recommendations or renegotiates as per Enron's offer — it will be able to claim that it could save as much as Rs 1,000 crore of the exchequer which, under the Congress raj was being squandered for the benefit of the foreign investor. Would not the BJP-Shiv Sena then claim that they have promised to be better custodians of the country's finances than the Congress Government? In other words, Mr Narasimha Rao and his Government is facing a veritable political disaster even without the Vohra report substantiating the politicians' links with the under-world and the tandoori degeneration of the Youth Congress. Surely it is a no-win situation, never before faced by any Congress Government in the past.

**Daily Says Enron Move Will Not Affect Investment**  
BK0508121495 Delhi THE PIONEER in English  
4 Aug 95 p 8

[Editorial: "A Decision At Last"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Maharashtra Government's decision to scrap the entire deal with the US-based Enron for setting up a gas-based power project at Dabhol has set at rest the speculation that the controversy would be deliberately prolonged by the BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] purely for political gains. It was feared that since a review of the Enron deal was a poll promise made by the BJP before the Maharashtra Assembly election early this year, there will be an attempt to keep the controversy alive as long as possible. By taking a decision to scrap the entire project in just about three months from the time the Review Committee was established, the Shiv Sena-BJP Government has shown that it treated the whole exercise only as a review and nothing else.

No Government can be denied its right to review a deal or a project. But what certainly can be expected of a Government is prompt review and an equally prompt decision. The fear expressed in May this year, when the Shiv Sena-BJP Government ordered a review of the Enron project, was that the exercise might take an inordinately long time causing a huge cost over-run. With the decision to scrap the deal, such fears have been dispelled. It is not unlikely that the intense debate generated by the review of the Enron deal in the last few months may have played its part in ensuring a quick response from the Maharashtra Government. Any decision other than scrapping the deal would have given rise to charges of an unholy deal between the Shiv Sena-BJP and the US multinational. It is possible that the Shiv

Sena and the BJP had become hostages to their own poll promises.

It is too early to assess the impact of the cancellation of the deal on the prospects of foreign investment in India. Canceling one project on the basis of a review should not be seen as a major setback to future foreign investment in India. On the contrary, the decision on the Enron deal might well send out a signal to foreign investors that if they have to do business in India they must subject all their transactions to scrutiny by the Indian authorities. In this context, the legal case the Maharashtra Government prepares against Enron will be a significant factor in determining the foreign investors' perception. If the case is foolproof, the Maharashtra Government's stand will be vindicated and there should be no adverse fall-out of the Enron deal.

However, in this excitement of cancelling the deal, the Maharashtra Government cannot afford to overlook the interests of the people of the State, who were expecting some improvement in power supply once the Enron power project got commissioned. Now that the Enron deal has been cancelled, it is the duty of the State Government to take an early decision on setting up new power projects and meet the growing power demand. Also, the State Government should ensure that while initiating legal proceedings against Enron, the Maharashtra State Electricity Board (MSEB) is adequately assisted with all available financial resources. MSEB should not be made to bear any burden arising out of a decision taken by the Maharashtra Government.

**System Introduced To Strengthen Internal Security**  
BK0608130995 Delhi All India Radio Network  
in English 1230 GMT 6 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The center has set up two surveillance systems to strengthen the internal security of the country. The union minister of state for home, Mr. Rajesh Pilot, told a news conference in Thiruvananthapuram today that the systems namely Operation Third Eye and Operation Khoj [search] have already come into force. The minister said the Operation Third Eye is intended for detecting smuggling, mafia, and hawala [illegal money transactions] markets, while Operation Khoj aims at the security of the border areas. He added that about 70,000 crore rupees are being utilized by the mafia and hawala marketeers for antinational activities. Mr. Rajesh Pilot disclosed that center has introduced a new system to apprise the state governments in advance about the law and order situation periodically.



**Minister Assures Steps Taken To Safeguard Security**

*BK0708094595 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 7 Aug 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The minister of state for external affairs, Mr. Salman Khursheed, assured the members in the Lok Sabha today that the government is taking necessary measures to safeguard national security in view of the acquisition of Chinese missiles by Pakistan. In a written reply, he said the government is aware that Pakistan has acquired surface-to-surface missiles from China which can be deployed at a short notice near the Indo-Pak border.

**Two Pakistani 'Mercenaries' Killed in Kashmir**

*BK0708155195 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 7 Aug 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Five persons, including two Pak [Pakistani] mercenaries, were killed in search operations and encounters in Kashmir valley during the last 24 hours. The security forces apprehended 38 militants and recovered a large quantity of arms and ammunition from them.

**Hindu Pilgrims, Muslims Clash in Kashmir**

*BK0808062795 Hong Kong AFP in English 0542 GMT 8 Aug 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] SRINAGAR, India Aug 8 (AFP) — The Kashmir mountain resort of Pahalgam, where five Western tourists were kidnapped a month ago, was tense on Tuesday [8 August] after a bomb blast left five Hindu pilgrims injured, police said.

A local shopkeeper was stabbed and four Muslim residents of the town injured in clashes with Hindu pilgrims who went on the rampage following the bombing of the Hotel Woodstock by suspected Muslim separatists, police said.

Police used batons to break up street battles between stone-throwing Hindu pilgrims and Kashmiri Muslims following the bombing Monday evening.

Police reinforcements were rushed in to maintain order in Pahalgam, where the situation was described as tense on Tuesday.

Two of the five pilgrims injured in the bombing of the hotel were in serious condition, hospital sources said.

A hardline Muslim separatist group, the Harkat-ul-Ansar, has vowed to disrupt the annual Hindu pilgrimage from Pahalgam, 100 kilometers (62 miles) east of this Kashmir summer capital, to a cave shrine in the Himalayas.

Two bomb blasts in Jammu, the Kashmir summer capital and starting point for the pilgrimage, last month claimed by the Harkat-ul-Ansar, or Movement of Friends, left 21 people dead.

Thousands of Hindu pilgrims are making the three-day trek from Pahalgam to the cave shrine and the Indian authorities have deployed tens of thousands of policemen and paramilitary troops to protect the Hindu devotees. Five Western tourists were kidnapped in the Pahalgam area last month by a Muslim militant group believed to have links with the Harkat-ul-Ansar.

The kidnappers of Britons Paul Wells and Keith Mangan, American Donald Hutchings, German Dirk Hasert and Norwegian Hans Ostro are demanding the release of 15 Muslim militants from Indian prisons.

Wells, Mangan and Hutchings were kidnapped while hiking near Pahalgam on July 4. Hasert and Ostro were seized separately in the same area four days later.

More than 12,000 people have died in a Muslim separatist campaign in Kashmir, India's only Muslim-majority state, since 1989.

**Iran**

**Rafsanjani Comments on 'Psychological Warfare'**

*LD0708201295 Tehran IRNA in English 1806 GMT 7 Aug 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, Aug. 7, IRNA — President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said here on Monday [7 August] the enemies of dignity and honour of Islam have launched a propaganda campaign and psychological warfare against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Speaking in a meeting with government officials from Ministries of the Interior, Culture and the Islamic Guidance and public relations of different institutions, he said the propaganda against Iran is rooted in some kind of middle age prejudice on which a considerable amount of money is being spent to portray religion especially Islam as being unable to administer a country in the industrial period.

On the objective of publicity in Iran, he said publicity in the Islamic Republic of Iran is aimed at displaying the capability and strength of Islam and how better Islam managed the administration of a country by bringing about progress and prosperity. He said it would be narrow-mindedness and naivety if someone thought the publicity in the Islamic Republic serves a certain group or wing or a person, but, it was aimed at showing the power and reconstruction capability of Islam and introducing a model for administration of a country in view of the Islamic values. He pointed to

the large-scale propaganda against the Islamic Republic of Iran magnifying the weak points and ignoring the progress and the eye-catching achievements of the Islamic revolution and called for programming and working hard to introduce the real picture of Iran for the outside world.

President Rafsanjani said thousands of development projects have been done or are under way in the remote and deprived areas, the extent of which is unprecedented in the history of the country. If the mass media and the institutions that have undertaken the duty of publicity did not inform the people of the services extended by the government, it should account for trampling on the people's rights. He said the confidence existing between the people and the officials is a valuable capital for the country and that the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the late Imam Khomeini, and the leader of the Islamic revolution, Ayatollah 'Ali Khamene'i have already called for publicity of the services of the Islamic revolution through appropriate means.

He said the leader of the Islamic revolution has rejected dissemination of news which may have negative impact on the audience and the publicity should depend on the realities heralding a bright and hopeful prospect for the people and the future generations.

#### **Plant Director Denies Chemical Weapons Manufacture**

*LD0608193195 Tehran IRNA in English  
1925 GMT 6 Aug 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, Aug. 6, IRNa — Managing director of Keshavarz chemical plant Mohammad Nabi Parvin announced here Sunday [6 August] that the plant manufactures only pesticides for farmlands and homes, and that its products were not for military purposes.

The plant, which is located in the "Alborz" industrial city in Qazvin, caught fire on July 14.

Talking to IRNA, Parvin rejected foreign media allegations of chemical weapon stocks at the plant and pointed out that the plant was not capable of producing chemical weapons in view of its existing design and facilities.

A foreign radio had recently claimed that a pesticide production plant in Qazvin was busy producing chemical weapons.

Parvin said that if the plant was capable of producing chemical bombs, its products were not by any means profitable for Iran's national bank, which had invested wherein.

Furthermore, he said the plant's activity did not pose any threat to the environment and that when it caught fire the substances released had merely contributed to air pollution of the surrounding areas.

Parvin said the chemical substances released were speedily dissolved by sunshine and water.

He said the plant produces fenvalerate, matathion, demetonate, fozalon, amitraz, azinphosmethyl, diazinon, permethrin, copper oxychloride, permethrin and lindain.

The Iranian official said 40 percent of the plant's required raw materials were imported from Europe, Japan, India and China.

He put the extent of damage to the plant as a result of last July's fire at 7.7 billion rials and said over 500 to 600 tons of products were in the plant's warehouse, when the fire occurred.

#### **Velayati Begins First Stage of Central Asian Tour**

*LD0708110695 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic  
of Iran First Program Network in Persian  
0930 GMT 7 Aug 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati began a tour of several Central Asian countries this afternoon. On the first leg of his tour, he is on his way to Almaty, the capital of Kazakhstan. According to our correspondent, during his tour the foreign minister will be holding talks with officials of Central Asian countries about bilateral ties and regional issues. A high-ranking political, economic, and cultural delegation is accompanying Mr. Velayati.

#### **Bosnia Urged To Take Advantage of 'Serb Weakness'**

*LD0808111995 Tehran IRNA in English  
1109 GMT 8 Aug 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, Aug 8, IRNA — The Bosnian leadership should set aside its differences and capitalize on the prevailing common viewpoints to take full advantage of this Serb weakness before the opportunity is lost, a morning daily wrote Tuesday [8 August].

Bosnian crisis has finally reached such a critical moment that has forced the OIC [Organization of the Islamic Conference] Contact Group members to make decisions and act upon them, the English-language IRAN NEWS added.

Referring to the recent OIC Contact Group meeting and the issues which were discussed in that gathering, the

editorial noted that next week a Malaysian political mission will visit Tehran to discuss OIC Contact Group's upcoming session and its agenda with Iranian officials.

"The recent OIC stance regarding Bosnia could pave the way for further action for the rest of the world without having to wait for U.N. to take any steps," it underlined.

The daily reiterated, "this is the Islamic group's first positive step in the right direction for a united Muslim front toward defending Muslims throughout the world against injustices so far perpetrated on world Muslims."

Meanwhile, Bosnia is going through internal political upheavals and the Bosnian Serb leadership is also engaged in some infighting, it said adding, the Bosnian-Serb internal problem is caused by the new unity amongst Muslims on the Serb issue.

The article proposed that the Bosnian leadership should take advantage of this opportunity presented to it by the crack in the Serbian politico-military front.

#### **New German Envoy Views Bosnia With Velayati**

*LD0708112395 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 7 Aug 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] Mr. Horst Beshmann, the new German ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Iran, presented a copy of his credentials to Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati this morning.

At the meeting, issues relating to bilateral and international cooperation and relations between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the European Union [EU] were discussed. The two sides expressed their anxiety about the Balkan crisis, especially the situation in Bosnia. Mr. Velayati referred to the blazing flames of war and bloodshed in the Balkans and, especially, the intensification of Serbian crimes in the shadow of the international community's silence. He described the arms embargo on Bosnia as illegal, saying: The United Nations must take seriously the request by the Bosnian people to have the right to defend themselves.

Our country's foreign minister referred to his recent visit to Croatia and Bosnia and to the close cooperation between the Muslims and Croats. He spoke of the need for cooperation between Iran and influential European countries to bring an end to the fighting.

The German ambassador, for his part, expressed anxiety about the intensification of the fighting in Bosnia and the continuation of the massacres against the people of that republic and stressed the need for finding a peaceful and rapid solution to the crisis. He said that greater cooperation between the countries of the Islamic

Contact Group and the Western Contact Group would prove effective in resolving the Bosnian crisis.

#### **Invites Velayati to Germany**

*LD0708151795 Tehran IRNA in English 1416 GMT 7 Aug 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, Aug. 7, IRNA — New German Ambassador to Tehran Horst Beshmann on Monday [7 August] called for a peaceful and immediate solution to the Bosnian crisis.

Beshmann, while submitting a copy of his credentials to Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, said further cooperation between Islamic and Western contact groups was helpful in solving the crisis. He called as "friendly and close" Tehran-Bonn relations and expressed hope that bilateral ties would further expand in light of close cooperation and exchange of views between Iranian and German officials. The German diplomat also invited Velayati, on behalf of his German counterpart to pay an official visit to Germany.

Velayati for his part said that Bosnian Muslims wanted the international community to allow them to defend themselves now that it has not protected them against Serb aggressions and crimes in defiance of all its duties. He added that unfortunately, the international community and the so-called peace-keeping forces and big powers have done nothing for the past few weeks and that all peoples of the world have come to realize that all threats of the international community are empty. Therefore, Velayati commented, Muslim countries have recently announced that they would no longer consider arms embargo on Bosnia as legal and that Bosnians have decided to defend their rights by themselves. He underlined cooperation between Tehran and influential European countries to end the ongoing clashes in the Balkans.

#### **Georgia Air Link Hoped To Improve European Ties**

*LD0508120795 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 5 Aug 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] A regular air link was established between Iran and Georgia when the first Iranian aircraft landed in Tbilisi airport in Georgia on 4 August.

According to a Central News Unit report, Iran Air will operate one return flight to Tbilisi once a week. Each flight can carry 240 passengers.

On the establishment of this air link and its effect on the expansion of economic relations, the head of the country's Civil Aviation Organization said: The establishment of an air link between Iran and Georgia

will also play an effective role in the expansion of relations between Iran and Europe, because of the geographical position of Georgia and its links with Europe.

**Ties to Moscow, Caspian Oil, Legal Status Viewed**  
*NC0708130495 Tehran SALAM in Persian 29 Jul 95 pp 1, 12*

[Commentary by Iraj Sharafzadeh: "Tehran-Moscow Concord: One Step Ahead"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [passage omitted] The members of the Azerbaijani oil consortium comprising of four U.S. companies and five other companies—British, Norwegian, Russian, Turkish, and Azerbaijani—are preparing to start their oil exploration activities.

In relation with this, it is better for the members of this consortium, who are seeking economic benefits from the oil produced from the three oil fields in the Caspian Sea, to refrain from investing in any oil venture before the Caspian Sea's legal status is determined and before the issue of its continental shelf is clarified.

Because of its enmity with the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Washington government is trying to put as great a distance as possible between Tehran and Moscow in this \$7.5-million deal, since it is more concerned with political objectives than economic benefits. And while every political and economic expert believes that the most economic route for the transfer of oil from the three oil fields in the Caspian is via Iran, Washington is trying to find another route, even though this route may be more difficult and not at all economic. [passage omitted]

In view of the special position Russia and Iran enjoy concerning the transfer of regional oil and gas, the Iranian Government should accept the West's proposal on delivering Caspian Sea oil to Iran's northern refineries, to be precise, the Tabriz refinery, in exchange for the same quantity of oil to be delivered from our other refineries in the south and our jetties in the Persian Gulf only if the Caspian Sea's legal status is clarified and our national interests examined within this framework.

Another issue that should be considered is that Aliyev's government has, either willingly or unwillingly, brought the U.S. and NATO into the Caucasus. This is a threat against regional countries. It is up to the statesmen at the Foreign Ministry to stop bribing the Baku government and Aliyev. They should realize that the Azerbaijani oil consortium ensures the interests of Washington at a time when Caspian Sea oil reserves should be used to meet the needs of the countries in the Caucasus and that there was no need for American and Western companies to

participate in this oil deal anyway. One of the official stances of the Russian Government is that this oil deal can be legally implemented only when the Moscow government and the other Caspian Sea littoral countries clarify the issue of the sea's continental shelf.

After the signing of the agreement on completing the Bushehr Nuclear Power Plant, relations between Tehran and Moscow markedly improved and, despite strong opposition from Washington, Russia has started its commercial and economic cooperation and has also taken effective steps toward this. Future programs of the Foreign, Petroleum, and other ministries should be aimed at finding ways to improve Tehran-Moscow relations.

#### **Radio Comments on 'Amman-Tel Aviv Compromise'**

*LD2807201395 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran in English 1930 GMT 28 Jul 95*

[Station commentary]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] In conditions when public protest against the Amman-Tel Aviv compromise prevails in Jordan, the parliament of that country in its latest meeting approved lifting the anti-Zionist laws. As such, from now onwards any economic and commercial contact between Jordan and the Zionist regime will be free. In other words, by lifting the laws banning trade with the Zionist regime, the Israelis can easily do business in Jordan, buying and selling movable and immovable estates.

This state of affairs paves the way for the Zionists to infiltrate the economic structure of Jordan, also serving as a [word indistinct] to their cultural influence over the Arabs.

In such conditions, 11 Jordanian parties opposed to the trend of compromise between Amman and Tel Aviv staged a sit-in in front of the place where the parliament representatives had come together, protesting against the lifting the anti-Zionist laws by the parliament of Jordan.

Formally, the Islamic national and leftist groups, especially the Islamic Action Front, reiterating the dire consequences of the presence of the Zionists in Jordan, had obstructed the [word indistinct] of lifting anti-Zionist laws. From the viewpoint of the Islamic groups, lifting the laws banning trade with the Zionist regime signifies opening the doors of Jordan's economy before the Zionist capitalists. In light of such a policy the Israeli capitalists are readily capable of exercising control over Jordan by purchasing Jordanian lands and financial, commercial, industrial, and agricultural markets.



Basically, at the present juncture, the Quds-occupying regime pursues two principle goals: first, decreasing to a considerable extent the Arab commercial sanctions which have for decades exerted economic pressures; and second, achieving its political goals by finding recognition among them through economic infiltration into the Arab markets.

In fact, political analysts believe that the general trend of compromise in the Middle East indicates that economic exploitation of the existing developments counts for the Israelis more than political considerations. For this reason, the wings opposed to normalization of relations with the Zionist regime perceive the dire consequences of the influence of Israelis in Jordan, thus stressing the continuation of their struggles against the Amman-Tel Aviv compromise. This will widen the gap existing between the government and the people of Jordan, depicting an arduous task before the leaders of Jordan.

#### **Kuwaiti Envoy on Persian Gulf Security Situation**

*LD0108140095 Tehran IRNA in English  
1333 GMT 1 Aug 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tehran, Aug. 1, IRNA — Kuwait's temporary charge d'affaires to Tehran, Fahd al-Zufiri said here on Tuesday [1 August] that Kuwait supports any security arrangement in the Persian Gulf provided by the Persian Gulf Cooperation Council and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Speaking in an interview with IRNA on the fifth anniversary of Iraqi occupation of Kuwait, August 2, 1990, Al-Zufiri said the Kuwaiti Government and nation will never forget Iran's principled and Islamic stance in the wake of Iraqi occupation of Kuwait.

The just and Islamic stand of Iran had very positive impact on the morale of Kuwaiti people in their effort to liberate their country, he said.

Kuwaiti charge d'affaires said hours after occupation of Kuwait, Iran declared support for Kuwait and its objection to any change in geographical boundaries in the region.

Asked about relations between Iran and Kuwait, he said relations between the two countries are excellent and four Kuwaiti cabinet ministers and several deputy ministers have visited Tehran since the beginning of the year and delegations from Iran made reciprocal visits to Kuwait to expand political and economic relations between the two countries.

On damage inflicted upon Kuwait as a result of Iraqi invasion, he said Iraq inflicted 40 billion dollars of direct damage and tens of billion of dollars of indirect damage

on Kuwait and about 5,000 people lost their lives in the course of the invasion.

He said Iraqi army took away tens of billion dollars worth of foreign bills and gold from Kuwaiti Central Bank and has not yet returned them despite the resolution of the United Nations Security Council.

Referring to the recent call by Iraqi foreign minister, Sa'id al-Sahhaf to normalize relations between Iraq and Kuwait, al-Zufiri said Kuwaiti Government and people have no confidence in Saddam's regime and Kuwait will never accept Iraqi envoy.

Al-Zufiri said Iraqi regime endeavors to get the U.N.-declared sanctions lifted, but, Kuwait insists on implementation of the U.N. Security Council resolution stipulating return of properties taken away from Kuwait, freeing 625 Kuwaiti captives and compensation for the damage inflicted upon Kuwaiti nationals and government.

Asked about presence of foreign powers in the Persian Gulf and ways to maintain security in the world's strategic petroleum route, Kuwaiti diplomat in Tehran said Kuwait has signed accords with several Western countries to deal with any possible Iraqi aggression in future.

He emphasized that in the meantime Kuwait will never allow foreign forces to use Kuwait as a base for operations against other states.

The defence accords between Kuwait and the western states is for dealing with any threat posed by the Iraqi regime, al-Zufiri said.

On the current misunderstanding between Iran and the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Kuwaiti charge d'affaires said Kuwait calls for continuation of direct talks between Tehran and Abu Dhabi with no interference from foreign countries.

#### **Reportage on Caspian Sea News Agencies' Conference**

##### **First Session of Meets**

*LD0708110795 Tehran IRNA in English  
1009 GMT 7 Aug 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Chalus, Aug 7, IRNA — The first session of the Association of the Caspian Sea News Agencies (ACSNA) started in Chalus, in the Caspian province of Mazandaran, Monday morning [7 August].

The one-day meeting is expected to approve the emblem and statute of the association and ways of communication among ACSNA member countries.

Members of the association will cooperate in the field of exchange of news, particularly in areas concerning the Caspian Sea region, and provide each other with economic and financial data. The ACSNA will meet annually in one of the member countries with the chairmanship of the host country for a period of one year.

#### **Rafsanjani Meets With Officials**

*LD0708165195 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran in English 1130 GMT 7 Aug 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] President Hashemi-Rafsanjani received a number of the officials and representatives of the news agencies of five Caspian Sea littoral states [Association of Caspian Sea News Agencies — ACSNA] on August the 6th. The meeting was held on the eve of the seminar of the Caspian Sea littoral states' union of news agencies.

The president of the Islamic Republic of Iran appreciated the formation of the union of the news agencies of five Caspian Sea states and described it as a new and important move in the world and a step towards expansion of scope of cooperation in all aspects.

This is the first time that officials of the news agencies of the Caspian Sea littoral states come together in such a gathering which can be seen as a success for various reasons. With the creation of the union and the precise exchange of news and information, one can reach many grounds of economic and political cooperation.

In the viewpoint of informed political observers, the Caspian Sea is regarded as a [word indistinct] new chapter in the regional cooperation. Many foreign countries have fixed their eyes on this gathering. For this reason, it can be said that the Caspian Sea littoral states, especially the newly independent Azerbaijan Republic, is exposed to news in [word indistinct] and distortion of realities in the region and even current events within the neighboring countries more than any other time.

There is no doubt that the destructive impacts of this trend, which is at present directed in the vast global news imperialism and Zionism, can divert many political and economic efforts in the region from the course of cooperation, understanding and mutual trust.

Now none of the Caspian Sea neighbors have doubts in the point that they have to think out a solution to confront this trend. The effort to find a solution has come to reality by the union of the news agencies of the Caspian Sea littoral states and holding of its first seminar in Tehran.

[The] Tehran meeting, therefore, should be evaluated as the beginning of a purposeful important move which

all the regional countries no doubt need. The Islamic Republic of Iran too shares in this constructive move and, as put by the president of the Islamic Republic of Iran among the officials of the union, the support of Iran's Government for this move is definite and all-out.

#### **IRNA Chief Appointed Chairman**

*LD0708220595 Tehran IRNA in English  
1112 GMT 7 Aug 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Chalus, Mazandaran Prov. Aug 7, IRNA — The Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) on Monday [7 August] was appointed as the chairman of Association of Caspian Sea News Agencies (ACSNA) for a one-year term.

The decision was made in the two day meeting of the representatives of news agencies of Caspian Sea littoral states that opened in this northern city Monday.

Addressing the gathering, IRNA Managing Director Fereyduun Verdinejad, also chairman of ACSNA, said that ACSNA was seeking to properly circulate regional news including those regarding the Caspian Sea, its resources, transportation, biological conditions, agricultural and economic issues.

He added utilizing regional facilities to develop Caspian Sea news agencies and putting regional news on international lines were among other objectives of the ACSNA.

Setting up of ACSNA would help regional people to get access to information on their region quickly, noted Verdinejad.

#### **IRNA Chief Addresses Officials**

*LD0708215395 Tehran IRNA in English  
1314 GMT 7 Aug 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Chalus, Gilan Prov., Aug. 7, IRNA — [dateline as received] Chief of the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA), Fereyduun Verdinejad on Monday [7 August] accused those countries having a monopoly on one sided and imbalanced flow of information of exploiting complicated propaganda methods as an effective weapon to secure their own interests.

Speaking at the opening ceremony of the one-day meeting of the Association of the Caspian States News Agencies (ACSNA), he said setting up a professional relationship among the regional news agencies could turn the one sided flow of information into a two sided one in order to preserve the common interests of regional states.

The IRNA managing director said the Caspian Sea littoral states occupying 22 million square kilometers of land and having a total population of 260 million

people are of special importance because of their special geopolitical situation in Asia and Europe. He said in view of the historical and cultural bonds shared by regional nations and the need to pay more attention to their problems, the need for facilitating the flow and exchange of information was felt more than ever before.

IRNA deputy managing-director, Mohammad Hassan Jafari said the continued process of information colonialism in today's world has prompted developing countries to restructure their mass media systems and join regional and international groupings. He recommended the Association of the Caspian Sea News Agencies (ACSNA) to spare no time for promotion of such groupings using modern and sophisticated facilities available.

The first deputy director-general of ITAR-TASS, Yuri Porokov told the audience that the establishment of the Association of the Caspian States News Agencies (ACSNA) would serve the interests of the regional states. He said that the association was considered an important phenomenon in the information gathering and dissemination system of today's world.

Despite the economic hardships faced by the Russian Federation, Russia has designed a plan to use satellite communication system for coverage of news in the five continents of the world, he said, adding that ITAR TASS was now busy modernizing its news transmission facilities.

#### **IRNA Reports on End of Meeting**

LD0808082695 *Tehran IRNA in English*  
0627 GMT 8 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Chalus, Mazandaran Prov., Aug 8, IRNA — The one-day meeting of the first session of the Association of the Caspian Sea News Agencies (ACSNA) ended here on Monday [7 August].

Formation of the permanent secretariat of ACSNA at the headquarters of the ISLAMIC REPUBLIC NEWS AGENCY (IRNA) in Tehran and approval of the technical plan proposed by IRNA were some of the points agreed upon in the session.

Secretary-General of ACSNA Mohammad Khodadi said that member states will exchange news in the near future. In addition to news exchange, Khodadi remarked, the member news agencies will cooperate with each other in the exchange of economic data and information at regional level. He also said that according to the statute, the association will meet annually in one of the member states.

The Association of the Caspian Sea News Agencies (ACSNA) consists of the news agencies of the five countries neighboring the sea. Iran, Russia, Azerbaijan,

Turkmenistan and Kazakhstan have common borders with the Caspian Sea. The region with 22 million square kilometers of land and a population of 260 million as well as rich oil, gas, sea and mineral resources, is one of the most important and strategic regions of the world.

#### **Daily Views Role, Efforts of Council of Guardians**

NC0108112695 *Tehran RESALAT in Persian*  
23 Jul 95 pp 1, 12

[Commentary by 'Alireza Shemirani: "Safeguarding the Nation's Rights"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] In the Islamic Republic of Iran, where managing issues should be based on public ballot, at least one fateful, important election is held (Council of Experts, president, Majles) almost every year. The main advantage of such a system is the people's support. However, the support is effective only when it is coupled with active, happy, and overall participation and when the people see that those for whom they have voted are assigned to positions in the country's management.

Article 3 of the Constitution clearly states that "ensuring political and social freedom within the law," "ending despotism, autocracy, and oligarchy," and ensuring that "the people participate in determining their political, economic, social, and cultural future" are among the duties of the Islamic Republic of Iran. [passage omitted]

On ensuring complete popular participation in the country's affairs, the Council of Guardians regards part of the draft amendment to the election law to be contrary to Article 20 of the Constitution. It has sent the draft amendment back to the Majles for reexamination. The draft amendment requires that candidates have a university degree or its equivalent.

According to Article 20 of the Constitution, "all persons, whether men or women, have equal protection under the law and may enjoy all human, political, economic, social, and cultural rights with due observance of Islamic precepts."

Requiring that Majles candidates have a degree may limit public participation and may exclude competent people, who are trusted by the public, from being elected. Because of this, the Council of Guardians—as the guardian of the people's rights—disagrees with this requirement. If this popular institution [the Council of Guardians] is stronger, it can help to further safeguard the people's rights and their votes. However, weakening this institution, which ensures election fairness and safeguards the Constitution and the nation's rights, this exactly what the autocrats and oligarchs, who lack popular support, want.

The Council of Guardians shows its concern over safeguarding the nation's rights and providing people the opportunity for complete participation in the political affairs of the country.

#### Minister Says Oil Income More Than Predicted

LD0508092095 *Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian*  
0245 GMT 5 Aug 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Oil Minister [Gholam Reza Aqazadeh-Kho'i] says, despite U.S. sanctions, Iran's oil income currently stands at \$850 million more than what the budget predicted.

The newspaper IRAN quotes Mr Aqazadeh as saying: During the last four months, Iran earned an average of a little more than \$17 per barrel from its oil exports. He added: Iran's oil exports have increased due to certain adjustments made to fuel consumption. He said the country's hard currency income is at a satisfactory level at the moment and it provides a good support for the government's plan.

#### 'Corruption Scandal' Threatens Islamic Revolution

MS0708142395 *London THE SUNDAY TELEGRAPH in English* 6 Aug 95 p 20

[Report by Con Coughlin: "Banking Fraud Overstretches Mullahs' Credit"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] A multi-million-pound corruption scandal reminiscent of the last days of the Shah has rocked Teheran and poses a serious threat to the future stability of Iran's Islamic revolution.

In what has been billed by the Teheran press as the "century's biggest theft", several leading members of the Islamic regime have been put on trial charged with embezzling millions of pounds from two of the country's leading banks.

In a country already beset by crippling economic problems, the suggestion that the banking scandal is only the tip of an iceberg of endemic corruption is unlikely to improve the flagging fortunes of President Hashemi Rafsanjani's Islamic regime.

The credibility of the ruling authorities has also been damaged by the alleged involvement of relatives of some of the regime's leading figures in the banking scandal.

According to evidence at the trial which opened in Teheran last month, Morteza Rafiqdoust was involved in a plot to embezzle an estimated 300 million pounds from two Iranian banks. He is the brother of Mohsen

Rafiqdoust, a former head of the Revolutionary Guards and one of the most powerful men in Teheran.

While Mohsen Rafiqdoust has not been directly implicated in the fraud, the fact that he was required to give evidence at the trial has deeply embarrassed the regime and provoked a fresh spate of political in-fighting between rival Islamic factions.

Mohsen Rafiqdoust, a small man in his mid-sixties, is head of the most powerful economic institution in Iran, the Foundation for the Deprived and War Disabled (Bonyad-e-Mostazafan-va-Janbazan).

Although the organisation was set up by the late Ayatollah Khomeyni as a charity to assist veterans of the Iran-Iraq war, under Rafiqdoust's shrewd management it has become the country's largest economic organisation, running industries ranging from car plants to hotels. It employs 350,000 people and is worth billions of dollars.

In addition to his pivotal role in the Iranian economy, Rafiqdoust has wielded considerable political influence in Teheran ever since he was invited to travel in Khomeyni's car during the Ayatollah's triumphant return to Iran in 1979.

Apart from being instrumental in setting up the Hizbolah militia in Lebanon in the early 1980s, Rafiqdoust played a key role in creating the Lebanon hostage crisis.

He was a close ally of Ayatollah Khamene'i, Iran's spiritual leader; and it is the allegations about the involvement of Rafiqdoust's family in the banking scandal which lies at the heart of the present political fall-out in Teheran.

As is often the case in Iran, indications that emotions are running high have been reflected in speeches made at the traditional Friday prayer services held at mosques around the country. One of the most forthright critics of the scandal has been Ayatollah 'Ali Meshkini, the head of the powerful Assembly of Experts, Iran's most important religious institution.

During a recent speech delivered at 'Ali Meshkini described the fraud as "unprecedented crime and treason", and accused the Iranian regime of favouritism.

"When people of low rank commit a crime or an offence, they are immediately pursued, imprisoned, locked up and ruined," he said. "But when it is some big shot, they (the authorities) merely move him from one town to another and give him another post maybe even higher than his previous post."

Iran's chief justice, Mohammad Yazdi, meanwhile, used a Teheran prayer service to reject the allegation, claiming the fraud was of little importance.



But for Iran's hard-pressed populace, the allegations of fraud prompt comparisons between the rule of the mullahs and the last days of the Shah, when exposures of widespread embezzlement strengthened the people's will to overthrow his regime.

Nor is the 300 million pound bank fraud the only example of corruption within Iran's ruling hierarchy that has recently come to light. Iranian officials are currently investigating claims that a senior official at Iran's state tobacco company embezzled 10 million pounds.

And at the end of last week the Iranian authorities arrested another two bank officials who are accused of defrauding a bank of 500,000 pounds.

The embarrassing number of corruption scandals is unlikely to improve the popularity of Iran's Islamic regime at a time when there is already widespread discontent about Iran's deteriorating economic situation.

At a time when most Iranians are not even supplied with decent drinking water the suggestion that the mullahs have used the Islamic revolution to line their own pockets will win them few friends.

**Application Refused to Group To Resume Activities**  
*LD0808122295 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 8 Aug 95*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Close to 150 political formations, trade societies, expert-scientific groups, and religious minorities' associations have obtained permits to conduct their activities in the country, and the applications of dozens of other political bodies for permits are being studied by the Majles commission on Article 10 of the law on setting up political parties.

Members of the commission on Article 10 of the political parties' law announced today, in an interview, that the commission has not yet refused to grant permits to any political and trade bodies.

Head of the commission Mr. Badamchian [not further identified], stressed that individuals, parties, and groups are allowed to be active in the country within the framework of the Constitution. He added that permits are issued to groups after their application and performance record, as well as the applicants' stances have been taken into consideration. Concerning the activities of some political organizations in the country, he said: The commission has refused the application of the Freedom Movement [Nehzat-e Azadi] for a permit to resume its activities again because the previous activities of this body were not compatible with the law on political parties and the Constitution. He added that political and guild organizations do not, at the outset, need permits for their activities. But if the commission on Article 10

considers that their activities are not compatible with the Constitution it can take steps to dissolve them or halt their activities. It can also ask the leaders or those in charge of these kinds of organizations, to reapply for permits.

'Ali Movahedi-Savoji, head of the Majles commission on councils and internal affairs and a member of the commission on Article 10, stressed that parties and political formations are free to be active in the country. He said that in order to be successful in setting up political organizations, it was necessary to have a comprehensive program that is acceptable to the people and to have informed and experienced leaders. He added: Parties and formations should have a Constitution that appeals to the people if they are to succeed.

According to the law, political bodies can take their complaints against the commission on Article 10 to the law courts. [passage omitted]

## **Pakistan**

**Butto Hopes For Improved U.S. Ties in Future**  
*BK0708132695 Peshawar THE FRONTIER POST in English 7 Aug 95 pp 1, 12*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Lahore — Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto Sunday [6 August] expressed the hope that Pakistan's relations with the United States would further improve in near future.

Butto said withdrawal of Hank Brown Amendment in US Senate aimed at diluting Presslor sanctions on Pakistan, should not be taken as a failure or incompetency of the Islamabad ambassador in the US.

Talking to a select group of City columnists, she said the US senators had their own perception on national and international issues. She said efforts would continue to win over the US senators to improve relations between the two countries and get the Pressler law amended in favour of Pakistan.

When told that her government's hostility might further dismember the country, the prime minister retorted "had it been my government in 1971, dismemberment of Pakistan would never have happened. I would have sorted out the issues with Bengalis through negotiations."

Butto swept aside the impression that her government did not believe in Two-Nation Theory, and said political process and terrorism could not go hand in hand. She reiterated that the MQM [Muhajir Qaumi Movement] chief, Altaf Hussain should surrender return home to find a political solution to the existing problems.

The premier said her brother Mir Murtaza during his stay in Afghanistan had adopted militancy to air his views, but joined the mainstream politics by bidding farewell to militancy. She argued that same was the case in Britain where Irish Republican Army had been heard by the government only after it had stopped terrorist activities.

Bhutto said she had stopped the PPP [Pakistan People's Party] workers from indulging in any political activity in Karachi. "How could my party take part in political activities when the opponents are using rocket launchers, anti aircraft guns, and all sorts of latest weapons to disrupt the peace in Karachi?"

She said terrorism could not be countered by mere political activities. Peace is mandatory for growth of political mindset. She said the present brand of terrorists in Karachi did not represent the typical culture of New Delhi, Lucknow or Aligarh, as those were the centres of highest intellectual activities.

Bhutto said in case the stalled government MQM talks succeeded, peace would be restored to Karachi within a year or so.

She said Karachi used to be a PPP city in 1970 when half of the city MNAs [Members of the National Assembly] belonged to PPP and all mayor and deputy mayor seats were won by her partymen. The situation, she said, had changed due to terrorist activities.

Still, she persisted that economic growth rate during her tenure had risen to four per cent as compared to only two per cent in the days of Nawaz Sharif.

She said foreign investment had poured into the country despite all odds. Had the situation been better, her government would have fetched more foreign investments.

About bickering in the PDF [Pakistan Democratic Front], the prime minister said she had stopped the PPP and the PML(J) [Pakistan Muslim League (Junejo)] from washing their dirty linen in public. She said both had been directed to sort out their problems through negotiations.

To a query regarding the poor performance of the government in urban centres of the country, she said her government had done a lot of work in cities and hoped that middle and educated classes would prefer voting for the PDF in next elections.

APP adds: Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto Sunday underlined the need for expanding and extending the national highways as per international standards to make the country a centre of Asian trade.

She was addressing a meeting of the National Highway Council, governing body of the National Highway Authority (NHA) at the State Guest House here.

Bhutto said it was imperative to maintain international standards in highways construction and completion of the projects within stipulated period to boost the trade and economic activity in the country and bring about socio-economic change in the society.

She said the government had keen interest in the development of a network of highways for which Rs. 12 billion had been allocated in the annual budget for the construction, expansion and extension of national highways.

She also approved, in principle, construction of Gawadar-Liyari coastal highway upto the border with Iran passing through Mara, Gawadar and Pasni costing Rs. 16 billion. The first phase to be started in January next at a cost of Rs. 4 billion will cover high construction from Liyari to Mara.

The premier was also briefed on a countrywide programme of the NHA. Chairman of the Authority told the meeting that Karachi-Lahore-Peshawar national highway would be dualised by the next year, and that 70 per cent of the total traffic used this highway.

He said the great Indus Highway project would be completed by 1997 which reduce the distance between Karachi and Peshawar by 400 kilometres. Likewise, he added, the ECO [Economic Cooperation Organization] National Highway and Karakorum highway allocated Rs one billion for the purpose.

Bhutto lauded the endeavours made by the NHA for undertaking steps for revival of the communication links between Pakistan and Central Asia. She said it was a matter of satisfaction that transit trade agreement or TTA, between Pakistan, China, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan had been concluded.

Bhutto said the cities and towns situated on the National Highways would also become important trade centres. The national economic policy is based on self-sufficiency. "We want to make use of our own resources instead of taking loans."

The meeting also sanctioned private-investment package for the NHA projects enabling foreign investors to invest in the projects of national highways. The meeting reviewed the investment offer of Iran in the national highways projects. Rs. 6 billion (40 per cent of the total cost) Gawadar-Pasni-Ormara-Lyari national highway. Work on Quetta-Albadin national highways and bridges that will be constructed by the provincial departments, the provincial governments would receive their toll tax.

**U.S. Senate 'Delaying Tactics' on Arms Decried**  
*BK0708103095 Islamabad THE PAKISTAN TIMES*  
*in English 7 Aug 95 p 6*

[Editorial: "At Their Old Game"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The amendment moved by Senator Hank Brown to modify the discriminatory Pressler Amendment and authorise President Bill Clinton to release about 370 million dollars worth of embargoed arms to Pakistan has been set aside by the United States Senate for some time on the grounds that it was an important and complex issue. It would now be taken up next month after the August recess. This was despite the fact that the acting US Secretary of State Peter Tarnoff and Secretary Defence William Perry had sent letters to some ranking senators expressing support of the Democrats Administration to the move by Republican Senator Hank Brown. However, three Democrat senators, together with Republican Larry Pressler, came up with strong opposition and had the move stalled for the moment.

It is no secret that President Bill Clinton is in favour of delivering the military requirement to Pakistan for which it has paid. The Clinton Administration has been using various levers to gain favourable passage of the Brown Amendment it contends that holding both the equipment and the money is nothing but unfair. Moreover, the equipment is not strategically significant as the bulk of it is made up of spares and items already in the Pakistani inventory. The three Orion planes would be used to patrol and defend the Pakistani coast. Rebutting the Indian argument that if any equipment is released to Pakistan it would upset the regional arms balance and start an arms race in South Asia, the acting US Secretary of State has said in clear terms that "even after the delivery of this equipment, India would retain conventional military superiority in the region." During the heated debate over the Brown Amendment in the Senate, Republican Senator William Cohen rebutted the allegation of Democrat Senator Carl Levin that Pakistan had received two billion dollars in aid from the United States but broken the promise of not going nuclear. He pointed out that India had lied to the world about its nuclear programme and suddenly made a nuclear test in 1974. The fact is that the release of the paid-up equipment to Pakistan does not amount to any new aid or sale of weapons to Pakistan. It was already in the pipeline when the Pressler Amendment was clamped. As reported in the press, there are at least five lobbies in the United States which are working against the interests of Pakistan. Besides the Indian government and its embassy in the United States Zionist groups, fully supported by the Israeli Government, are active in this

respect. The anti-China lobby is another which persists with having the discredited story reported every 10 days that China has supplied M-II missiles to Pakistan. It is evident that those in the US Senate opposing the Brown Amendment to allow the release of military equipment to Pakistan are using delaying tactics as they know they do not have the required numbers to defeat it at the time of voting. Although kept pending for this time being, there is every hope that Senator Hank Brown's initiative would be included in the foreign aid bill which would be presented in the Senate next month.

**Saudi Arabia Assures Support for Kashmir, Cause**  
*BK0208092795 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network*  
*in English 0300 GMT 2 Aug 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Saudi Arabia has reaffirmed its support to the people of Kashmir saying it will never hesitate to help the Kashmiris to realize their aspirations for freedom. This assurance was conveyed by the Saudi foreign minister, Sa'ud al-Faysal, in a letter sent to Foreign Minister Sardar Asif Ahmad Ali. Expressing his sorrow and grief over the destruction of Charar Sharif shrine and mosque by Indian forces in occupied Kashmir, he said Saudi Arabia would continue to support the cause of Kashmiri people as it was one of their just Islamic issues.

**Official Addresses Kashmir Hostage Situation Offer**  
*BK0708132295 Hong Kong AFP in English*  
*1210 GMT 7 Aug 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Islamabad, Aug 7 (AFP) — Pakistan has offered to help win the release of five Westerners held hostage by a Moslem guerrilla group in Indian-controlled Kashmir, a top Foreign Ministry official said Monday [7 August].

"We have been in touch with the embassies of the countries whose nationals are held and we have told them that we would try to do whatever we can," Najmuddin Shaikh told reporters.

The government also had "clearly" told the diplomatic missions that it had no knowledge of the Al-Faran group, which is said to be holding the hostages.

"We have our own suspicions," he said, claiming it was not clear whether the group was an independent or "breakaway" group or one "controlled" by Indian intelligence agencies.

Pakistan has made repeated appeals for the release of the captives, he said.

The Al-Faran group seized American Donald Hutchings and Britons Keith Mangan and Paul Wells on July

2. German national Dirk Hasert and Norwegian Hans Ostro were abducted separately four days later.

The group has demanded the release of 15 colleagues from Indian prisons in exchange for the hostages, some of whom are reported to be wounded and ill.

Pakistan vows moral, political and diplomatic support for the Moslem separatist drive in the Indian-administered Kashmir, calling it a legitimate struggle for self-determination.

It denies Indian charges that it arms and trains guerrilla groups involved in the campaign, which has claimed more than 12,000 lives since 1989.

Since their independence in 1947, the two countries have fought two wars over Kashmir, of which the northern third is controlled by Pakistan.

#### **Bhutto Expresses 'Satisfaction' Over Karachi**

*BK0708154195 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 7 Aug 95*

[FBIS Translated Text] A high-level meeting, chaired by Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto in Karachi today, reviewed the law and order situation in the city. Expressing satisfaction over the law and order situation, the prime minister directed that no leniency of any kind should be shown while dealing with terrorists and peace and tranquility should be restored in Karachi. The meeting was attended by the governor and the chief minister of Sindh, Interior Minister Nasirullah Khan Babar, and senior officials.

Later, at Rangers Headquarters, the prime minister was briefed about the situation in the city. Thereafter, the prime minister undertook a visit to some areas in Organgi, including Khajji ground, Banaras Chowk, and Pirabad, up to three hours. At Orangi Town, the prime minister paused at Banaras chowk and Pirabad locality of Baldia Town, and met with people, who raised the slogans: Long live Pakistan. Long live Prime Minister Benazir. She met with people at certain localities. The people submitted petitions to the prime minister on which she issued on-the-spot instructions.

#### **Karachi Police Arrest 82; Goods Recovered**

*BK0708161395 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in English 1600 GMT 7 Aug 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Karachi police has arrested 82 accused from different parts of the city during the last 24 hours. Illegal arms, narcotics, and stolen goods have also been recovered from their possession.

According to a press note issued by the commissioner, Karachi this evening, two persons were killed and two others injured in different incidents in the city today.

#### **MQM Chief Urges End to Killing of Activists**

*BK0608124795 Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 6 Aug 95 p 3*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] London — MQM [Muhajir Qaumi Movement] chief Altaf Hussain has urged President Farooq Leghari and Chief of Army Staff, Gen. Abdul Waheed to "frame charges of committing murder against all those responsible for massacre of MQM activists and supporters during custody by law enforcement forces in Karachi, without any discrimination of status to fulfil the natural demand of justice."

In a statement issued here last night Altaf Hussain disclosed that during the last few weeks, more than 50 MQM innocent workers were murdered in the custody of those who arrested them, but they always pretended their assassination as killed in police confrontation. He emphatically said, the saner elements of the country and common people could not be "deceived by such disinformation for all times and for long."

He said, the army officer who was found guilty of murdering nine villagers in Tando Bhawal was court marshalled and sentenced to death, but on the other hand, the murders of MQM activists in the police custody were being awarded by the prime minister and the chief minister of Sindh. "This is sheer injustice and discrimination particular with Muhajir community, which calls for your immediate attention," Altaf demanded.

#### **Spokesman Denies Arrest of Altaf Group Member**

*BK0808125795 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in English 1100 GMT 8 Aug 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] A spokesman of the Interior Ministry has refuted a news item carried by a section of the press today which claimed that Dr. Imran Farooq, a leader of the Altaf Group, had been nabbed by the law enforcing agencies from Karachi. The spokesman said today that Dr. Imran Farooq was not in the custody of the federal law enforcement agencies or the Sindh Province. He said it appeared as if this malicious canard has been disseminated to create an alibi. He said the terrorists appear to be trying to find a pretext to liquidate Dr. Imran Farooq.

#### **Minister Holds News Conference on Karachi Talks**

*BK0708143995 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in English 1400 GMT 7 Aug 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The federal law minister and leader of the government negotiating team in the talks



with the Altaf Group, Professor N.D. Khan, has expressed the hope that talks between the two sides for the restoration of peace in Karachi would be resumed in a few day's time. Addressing a news conference in Karachi this afternoon, he said it is in the national interest that the talks be resumed as early as possible. He said that various complications, which had cropped up earlier, were resolved at the negotiating table. As there are some other complications, they could also be resolved on the table through dialogue. Replying to a question about the objection for calling the other side as Altaf Group, Mr. N.D. Khan said this question is no more an obstacle. He said now another problem of not allowing a member of Altaf Group team, who wanted to proceed to London for consultations, has come up. He said he is trying to know the reasons why the member was put on the Exit Control List. Mr. N.D. Khan said that all these issues could be tackled at the negotiating table. He said the government sincerely wants to hold talks with Altaf Group to restore peace in Karachi. He said they were ready to go further, if the other sides moved a little. Replying to another question, Prof. N.D. Khan said that the clarification sought from Altaf Group are of very important and vital nature.

#### **MQM Negotiator Says 'Rigid' Stand Precludes Talks**

BK0808095295 Islamabad THE NATION in English  
8 Aug 95 pp 1, 11

[Report by Shamim Bano]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Karachi — The chief negotiator of MQM [Muhajir Qaumi Movement] Ajmal Dehlvi has ruled out any possibility of government-MQM talks in near future as according to him the government's stance is rigid and it is reluctant to recognise MQM. This he said while talking to The Nation.

MQM, he said, is ready to sit on the negotiating table provided they call us as MQM instead of Altaf group.

"They should allow Shoaib Bukhari, member of negotiating team, to proceed to London and after approval from the MQM Chief Altaf Hussain, we are ready to sit on the negotiating table. The only condition is that they must recognise MQM," he reiterated.

Now, he said talks can only be resumed on the approval of MQM Chief Altaf Hussain, as governments he said, is showing no flexibility towards them.

In the future, he said, if talks are held, it may not be between parties but observers and different Opposition representatives may also be asked to participate in the talks. He said we have lost faith on the government and people must know the factual position of the talks.

Dispelling the impression of new group emerging from the MQM, he said people thinking about a new group are living in fool's paradise. An attempt to disintegrate MQM will have adverse affects, he said and added that 'ocean is never dried after taking few buckets water from it'.

He further said if Dr Imran Farooq wants a new group, it will be his political death as people have given mandate to Altaf Hussain and MQM.

Commenting on Interior Minister's statement regarding strike call by MQM will not be welcomed by people, Ajmal replied that we can not be provoked by government.

The government, he said, trying to play game under the umbrella of strike call by MQM.

The government, he warned, will not be able to use MQM leaders for their vested interests.

He however, disclosed that Altaf Hussain has contacted allied parties for seeking consensus for striking anti-government campaign.

He said that if talks held in future are conditional it will further complicate the whole situation. Ajmal denied entering into government circle and added we will choose to sit in the Opposition and will not be fooled by the government.

#### **Sri Lanka**

##### **President Rejects Proposal on Power Transfer**

BK0708122995 Hong Kong AFP in English  
1223 GMT 7 Aug 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Colombo, Aug 7 (AFP) — The Sri Lankan Government Monday [7 August] rejected a Tamil minister's proposal to grant power to separatist Tamil Tiger rebels in the northeast in exchange for ethnic peace.

The minister for rural industrial development, S. Thondaman, said he had urged President Chandrika Kumaratunga to hand over power in the embattled northeast to the rebel Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) for a five-year period.

But the president issued a statement rejecting the idea outright, just hours after a suspected Tigers suicide-bomber blew up a government building, killing at least 21 people and wounding 52 others.

"The government rejects this proposal unreservedly, and has no intention of acceding to, or acting on Minister Thondaman's suggestion in any way," the statement said.

The president announced a peace proposal five days ago that would divide the country into eight autonomous regions and give powers to Sri Lanka's two million minority Tamils, most of whom reside in the northeast.

But she has ruled out talks with the LTTE, which is fighting for a separate Tamil state in the northeast. More than 50,000 people have died in ethnic conflicts in Sri Lanka in the past two decades.

Thondaman is a Sri Lankan Tamil of Indian origin and heads the Ceylon Workers' Congress, a member of Kumaratunga's ruling People's Alliance coalition.

#### **'Intellectuals' Back Proposals To Resolve Crisis**

*BK0508135195 Colombo Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation International Service in English  
1045 GMT 5 Aug 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] An increasing number of intellectuals, writers, and professionals have come out in support of the political proposals put forward by the government to resolve the ethnic crisis. In a statement to the media signed by nearly 90 of them, they welcomed the wide-ranging constitutional reform proposals offered by the PA [People's Alliance] government which was elected by the people with a clear mandate to restore peace and ethnic harmony in Sri Lanka.

The intellectuals noted that the government has demonstrated a commendable measure of worry and political imagination by presenting its own proposals to the people of the country. They expressed the hope the people will take up this opportunity to work toward rebuilding a secular, democratic, and multiethnic society on the basis of maintaining and sharing of power among all community. The media statement issued by the professionals claimed that the present proposals contain a number of positive features and as the most wide-ranging ever presented by a Sri Lankan Government to resolve the ethnic conflict through political means. The political reforms envisaged in the PA government's proposals can form a sound basis for deepening democracy and ending ethnic enmity in Sri Lanka. The professionals have particularly appealed to the government to take necessary steps to enable the people in the North and East participate in the national dialogue without fear.

#### **Reportage on 7 Aug Bomb Blast, Possible Suspect**

##### **Police Believe 'Pushcart' Held Bomb**

*BK0708112995 Colombo Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation International Service in English  
1045 GMT 7 Aug 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] A powerful bomb exploded at the chief minister's office building at the Independence

Square in Colombo this morning. It exploded near the entrance of the chief minister's office. Latest reports say that 20 people have died. The number of injured is 52; they have been admitted to the Colombo General Hospital. The CID [Criminal Investigation Department] believes that this bomb might have been brought by a person in a pushcart; witnesses to the incident have reported this. A senior CID officer told our reporter that according to eyewitnesses, the cart had been pushed by a person toward the public administration minister's building and it exploded near the entrance of the chief minister's office. It is suspected that the body of the person who brought in the cart is also among the dead. [sentence as heard] The government analysts are now engaged in initial examination with a team of experts. Those who are conducting investigations also told our reporter that the bomb had been turned out to be a strong exploding material. Officials have been able to collect a major part of the material that had exploded.

Today is the normal day allocated by the Western Province chief minister to meet the public. The chief minister, Susil Prem Jayanth, said that many people had come to see him. At the time of explosion he was at a discussion with the provincial education director.

#### **AFP Reports on Possible LTTE Link**

*BK0708153295 Hong Kong AFP in English  
1519 GMT 7 Aug 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Colombo, Aug 7 (AFP) — A suicide bomber devastated a key government office in the Sri Lankan capital Monday [7 August], killing 21 people and shattering hopes of an early end to this Indian Ocean island's ethnic war, police said.

The Kamikaze-style bomber was identified as a 25-year-old Tamil vendor of Indian origin, who had been selling king coconuts in the high security Cinnamon Gardens area where most of the foreign missions are located, police said.

"We know his identity. We arrested one of his associates on suspicion yesterday," police Deputy Inspector-General H. M. Kotakadeniya said without giving further details of the arrest.

Police said they were almost certain that the bomber was either a member of or was working for the separatist Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) which is currently battling security forces in the island's Northeast.

"This is definitely the handiwork of the LTTE," police senior superintendent Lionel Gunatillake said adding that 21 people, including the suicide bomber were killed and another 52 wounded.

The powerful blast ripped through the two-storied colonial-style Western Province Chief Minister's office where President Chandrika Kumaratunga had worked before winning elections in August last year, witnesses said.

Witnesses saw the remains of 10 people lying among shattered glass, bricks, sand, rubble and wooden planks of the upper floors of the building which is also located near the state radio and television stations.

Gunatillake said a lone suicide bomber had pushed a hand-cart filled with king coconuts and exploded the bomb hidden inside. By evening, thousands of men, women and children flocked to the area to see the devastation.

Political sources said the attack could be considered a response from the Tamil Tigers to a government peace package unveiled Thursday granting greater autonomy to minority Tamils in a bid to politically marginalise the LTTE.

The bombing came four days after Kumaratunga ruled out fresh talks with the LTTE which broke off a truce on April 19 to resume their guerrilla war. Kumaratunga defeat the LTTE unless it agreed to lay down arms.

The military said that they had expected a bomb attack here following the LTTE's rout on July 28 when they lost over 300 fighters during an abortive attempt to overrun an army camp at Weli Oya in the island's Northeast.

"This looks like a revenge attack for Weli Oya as well as a direct response to the government's peace package and president's remarks at Friday's press conference," a military official said.

Kumaratunga defended her peace plan at the press conference and firmly ruled out granting political power to the LTTE which is leading the Tamil separatist campaign which has claimed over 50,000 lives since 1972.

The bombing which killed 20 civilians, including two women and the bomber himself, was the first in the capital in nearly eight years targeting civilians. In November 1987, an LTTE car bomb killed 32 people here.

Military sources said that the Tigers may not have targetted the radio and television stations because the approach to those buildings could have been easier from another road rather than the one through the bombed office.

Analysts believed the attack was also a come-down for the guerrillas because they normally used suicide

bombers to eliminate high profile targets such as presidents, prime ministers or key military officials.

"Apart from the symbolic resistance to the peace package, they have not got much by killing civilians attending to their work at a government office," an Asian diplomat said. "This is a sign that the LTTE is getting desperate.

#### **Police Arrest Tamil Man as Suspect**

*BK0708155595 Hong Kong AFP in English*  
*1550 GMT 7 Aug 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Colombo, Aug 7 (AFP) — A Tamil man wounded in Monday's [7 August] bomb attack in the Sri Lankan capital Colombo was arrested as he tried to escape from the main hospital here, police sources said.

The man, identified as Iswaran, tore up his hospital admission record and was about to leave the hospital when police seized him for questioning over the bombing of a government office where 21 people were killed and 52 wounded, the sources said.

"We want to find out why he was in such a hurry to get out of the hospital before we could complete our investigations," a police source said adding that the man's wife had also been injured in the bombing.

Police Inspector-General W. B. Rajaguru said in a statement that the separatist Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) was responsible for the bombing of the Western Province Chief Minister's office.

The identity of the suicide bomber who carried out the attack has been established as a Tamil vendor of Indian origin from the island's central [word indistinct] area, police sources said.

#### **Bomb Said Meant for President or Minister**

*BK0808082095 Hong Kong AFP in English*  
*0605 GMT 8 Aug 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] COLOMBO, Aug 8 (AFP) — A powerful bomb which killed 22 people at an office here was actually intended to assassinate Sri Lanka President Chandrika Kumaratunga or a senior minister, police sources said Tuesday [8 August].

Police made a breakthrough in Monday's bombing following the interrogation of a Tamil man who was already in custody on suspicion that he was linked to the separatist Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), the sources said.

The bomb was concealed inside a hand cart loaded with king coconuts and exploded outside the Western

Province Chief Minister's office at the high security Torrington Square in Cinnamon Gardens, police said.

"The case is now almost solved. We have got the man who assembled the bomb and also found some cyanide capsules. They have said the bomb was intended for a VVIP (very, very important person) and it was to go off against a motorcade," a police source said.

Police said the bomb attack also could have been meant for Power and Energy Minister Anuruddha Ratwatte who is also a junior defence minister leading the campaign against the LTTE.

Ratwatte is known to take the route where the bomb went off, they added.

Tamil Tigers carry cyanide capsules with them to commit suicide to avoid falling into the hands of security forces.

On Monday, President Kumaratunga confirmed in an interview with the British Broadcasting Corp. (BBC) that the LTTE had sent suicide bombers to assassinate her.

The man who pushed the deadly cart Monday had been arrested earlier by the Crime Detection Bureau and released after taking his photograph. However, his associate was kept under detention.

Police believe that the bomber may have panicked and set off the blast outside the Chief Minister's office because his accomplice was being questioned and he feared exposing himself before carrying out the job assigned to him.

Military sources said ball bearings packed inside the bomb were clearly aimed at killing a large number of people.

In March 1991, the LTTE set off a powerful car bomb to ambush a motorcade and kill junior defence minister Ranjan Wijeratne who at the time was leading a war against the Tamil Tigers.

Since then, the LTTE has been accused of using suicide bombers to assassinate former Indian premier Rajiv Gandhi in May 1991, Sri Lanka president Ranasinghe Premadasa in May 1993 and opposition leader Gamini Disanayake in October 1994.

#### **8 Aug Bomb Blast Kills 4, Injures 10 in Market**

*BK0808045195 Hong Kong AFP in English  
0441 GMT 8 Aug 95*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] COLOMBO, Aug 8 (AFP) — A powerful bomb exploded at a busy market in eastern Sri Lanka Tuesday [8 August], killing or wounding several people, military spokesman Sarath Munasinghe said.

A local hotel manager said four people were killed and 10 wounded when the blast occurred near the fish and meat stalls of the Batticaloa market, 303 kilometers (189 miles) east of here.

"People started running in all directions. We don't know what type of bomb it was but four people were killed and another 10 were taken to hospital," A. Soosaitheasan, the manager of a local hotel said.

The powerful blast came a day after a similar bomb exploded outside a government office in the Sri Lankan capital Colombo, killing 21 people, police said.



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